



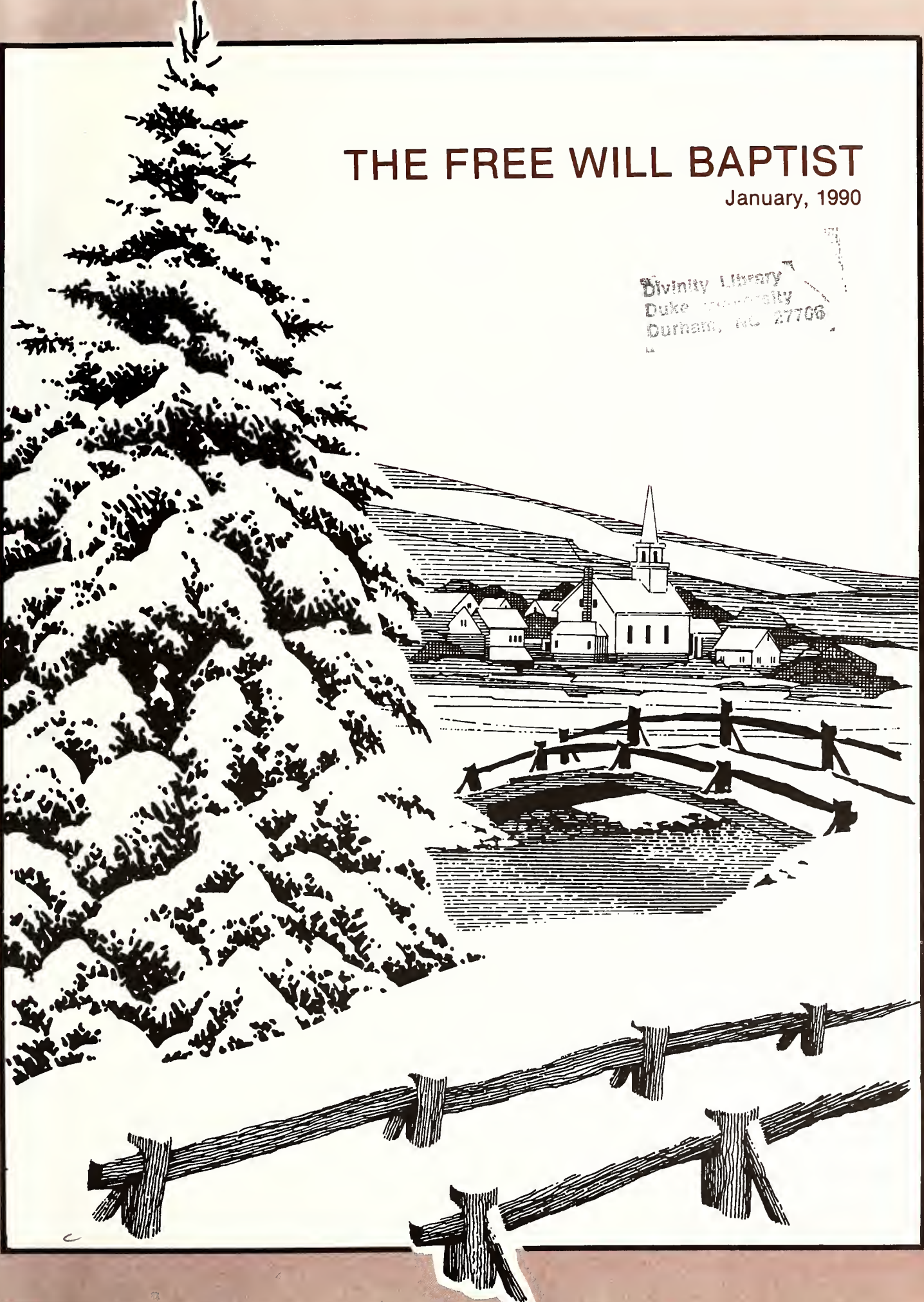
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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

January, 1990

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors: Darrell Horne, President; Carroll Hawkins, Vice President; Gaye Renfrow, Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Assistant Secretary; Carlee Stallard, Jack Thompson, W. S. Burns, Gary Burbage, Leon Harris; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

Happenings Throughout the Church	3
What Can Your Group Do	14
The Best Gift Might Be Time	15
In a Word: Cycles	16
My Free Will Baptist Heritage in Relation to Evangelism	17
The Source of All Gain	25
Children's Corner	26
A More Informed People	27
Notes and Quotes	31



**NEW LOCATION FOR FIRST FREE WILL
BAPTIST CHURCH IN ROCKY MOUNT**

by Debbie Daughtridge

This year has been a great one for First Church, Rocky Mount. Many wonderful things have been happening for us. Our theme in this adventure has been "Victory in Jesus." Without Jesus, many things would not have happened for us. We placed all our faith in Him, that He would lead us to do His will and not ours.

He led 13 families on August 7, 1988, to vote to sell our church on 406 Cokey Road. This was not an easy decision to make, for many grew up in this church and many of the charter members were still present. Committees were formed to scout out new locations for our church. Sometimes it seemed hopeless with the cost of land and building supplies for a new church. The Lord knew that we could not afford this kind of expense. Jesus then led us to a recent church building and property that came on the market. We all looked over this recently-built church and property and soon realized that this place could feel like home for all of us. There was lots of unfinished work for us to

complete. It looked hopeless but the men of our church decided that it was just another task for the Lord's work. They spent their summer days working to complete the Sunday School rooms so that we may have services very shortly in our new church. The men worked very hard, the women served them lunch, and in the end everyone pitched in to help.

We thought that we had a long time to work on our new church, then the Lord sent an extra blessing our way. Another church wanted to rent our church building. The Lord does answer prayers! We made plans to be in our new church building on September 3, 1989. Our last service in our old church was very hard for us, but we looked at this as another step for God's glory. We all said good-bye to our old church but looked forward to our first Sunday in our new church. The time capsule placed in our old church was removed to be placed in our new facility.

Then September 3, 1989, came. We ran an ad in our local

newspaper to announce our move and invite everyone to come and see us. We saw a lot of new faces and old faces. The service was a special one in many ways. The dream of a new church was now a reality. The hard work paid off as we had many compliments on a job well done.

On October 15, 1989, we had homecoming services at our church. Many former members came to help us celebrate all the things that our Lord has done for us this year. Dinner was served after an inspiring message by the Rev. Ray Williamson, our pastor. After all the good food was gone, we were then blessed by "Moving Up" from Greenville. They presented an afternoon of beautiful singing for God's glory.

On November 21, 1989, we were invited to attend our first community Thanksgiving service for all the churches in our new community. It was really an exciting evening for us; we were being recognized in the community. It was a blessing to be involved.

Our new church at 1825 Bethlehem Road has been such an inspiration to us. Many believed that we would never move from our old location; some were afraid that we would fail. But, many of us prayed and asked for God's blessings on what we should do and He led us the right way for Him.

There is truly "Victory in Jesus," because without Him we would not be at our new location. Nothing is impossible if you put your trust in Him.

The church building may be new, but the people here are still the same friendly people they have always been. We extend an invitation to all who come our way to come and see all the blessings God has bestowed upon us.

HICKORY GROVE EVENTS

The Ladies Auxiliary of Hickory Grove Church, Bethel, sponsored a barbecue plate supper to raise money for our mission schools in India on Saturday, November 18. What a success it was! It not only was a Ladies Auxiliary project, but one that involved the whole church. A good time was had by all.

The mission schools in India became the goal of the Auxiliary in 1989 and we are pleased to say, we are about half way there.

Let's keep on working and praying!

HONORS BANQUET GIVEN FOR ADULT CLASS

by the Rev. Dale Weaver

The Young Adult Sunday School Class of Mt. Tabor Church gave an Honors Banquet for the Adult Sunday School Class on Saturday, November 18, 1989, in the Fellowship Hall. The welcome was extended by Brenda Williams.

The evening started with a delicious meal of turkey, dressing, gravy, creamed potatoes, string beans, green peas, candied yams, pickled beets, cranberry sauce, and various desserts.

Next was the drawing for the six door prizes. These were won by Fentress Simmons, Elbert Spruill, Leroy Comstock, Eleanor Moore, Beedie Spruill, and the Rev. Dale Weaver.

The fun began with gag gifts being won by Annelizer Oliver, for being the oldest—a bottle of Vitamin E; Florence Furlough—for being married the longest, a bottle of glue to hold them together; Elbert Spruill, for the least hair—a comb for his few strands; Annelizer Oliver, for the most grandchildren—ear plugs to help when they are all home. We next shared in the game called *Guess Who?*

A tribute was given by Cheryl Williams, the Young Adult teacher, to the Adult Class. Her

thoughts were taken from 1 John 3:16-24 and 1 Peter 4:5-11, expressing to those present that they had taught by deed and not just by word. They had been good examples to the young people in the church and their dedication was to be admired and copied by all. Their jobs were not finished and there is still a lot to be done. Praise the Lord for our dedicated older Christians!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULED

The annual meeting of the Church Finance Association membership will be held February 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex. All members are encouraged to attend.

BOARD TO MEET

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet Monday, January 22, 1990, at 10 a.m., at First Church, Kinston, NC (room 201).

All persons having business with the Board are asked to be present.

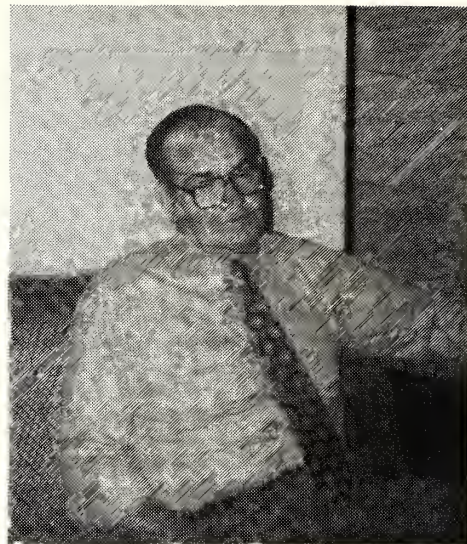
SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen

Mr. Sam Mills was the senior citizen honored during November by the Adult Sunday School Class of Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference.

Mr. Mills is a lifelong member of the Pleasant Hill community. He has a wonderful reputation of being a fine husband, father, grandfather, and friend to those in the church and community. He is always ready to help others in a kind, patient way.

Mr. Mills moved his membership to Pleasant Hill Church from Trinity Church in Greenville around seven years ago, and has proved himself to be an active participant in our church and Sun-



Sam Mills

day School. At times he has had to miss services due to his wife's ill health. He requests your prayers for his family.

Sam retired from Singer Furniture Company in 1979. He is married to Aubrey Mills. He has one son and two grandchildren.

Mr. Mills enjoyed the fellowship on Sunday morning, November 26, when he was honored with a breakfast with the entire Sunday School invited. He was presented a gift.

BIBLE SALES HELP CHARITIES IN CAUSE-MARKETING EFFORT

Those purchasing the Revised English Bible will find that they can help a charity by simply mailing a post card, according to an article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

The Revised English Bible, jointly published by the Oxford University Press and the Cambridge University Press, will contain a business reply card listing six charities. If purchasers check off one of the charities listed and mail the card back, the publishers will donate 50 cents to that charity.

Initial sales in the United States are expected to be about 150,000 making potential donations to the six charities as much as \$75,000, according to the *Inquirer*.

David M. Perkins, Oxford University advertising promotion and publicity manager, said that he and sales manager Hargis Thomas came up with the idea as a way to market the Bible and act on religious principles at the same time, the *Inquirer* reports.

The Revised English Bible is available at the Free Will Baptist Press and its branch stores in New Bern, Kinston, and Wilson at a cost of \$21.95, with the Apocrypha; and \$19.95 without it.

NEW MEMBER OF CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mrs. Elizabeth Brinckek, left, and Mrs. Rebecca Davenport, president of the Children's Home Board of Directors.

In September 1989, the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists elected Mrs. Elizabeth Brinckek to the Children's Home Board of Directors.

Elizabeth Brinckek and her husband, Michael, have one son, Mikey. The Brinckek family live in Kenly and are members of Kenly Church.

Mrs. Brinckek is the senior legal secretary for the law firm of Narron, O'Hale, Whittington and Woodruff in Smithfield and was secretary of the year for the North Carolina Association of Legal Secretaries in 1988.

The Convention also re-elected the Rev. Doug Skinner, pastor of

Winterville Church, and the Rev. Garland Suggs, pastor of Whiteville Mission.

ELWOOD LANE OBSERVES CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



Pictured above is the Rev. Wayne Watson of Elwood Lane Church helping Bobby Taylor, executive director of the Children's Home, to load gifts into the van.

The members of Elwood Lane Church, in Kannapolis, NC, celebrated Children's Home Month on November 19, 1989, by inviting the Executive Director of the Home to visit Elwood Lane and presenting him with gifts for the Children's Home.

Bobby Taylor, executive director of the Children's Home, delivered the morning worship message, "Strengthen the Family." After the service, the Rev. Wayne Watson, pastor of Elwood Lane, and the members presented to Mr. Taylor a van load of linens and a check for \$100.

We sincerely thank the members of Elwood Lane Church for their warm reception and special donation on this special day, as well as for all their efforts and hard work to make November a special month for our child care ministry.

BAKERS ATTEND EDUCATIONAL MEETING

by Fred Baker

In September, Fred and Linda traveled to the Island of Cebu to attend the Annual Meeting of the Philippine Association of Bible and Theological Schools. We at-

tended this meeting as the official delegates from Palawan Bible College, at the request of the Rev. Willem van der Plas, president of PBC.

Sixty-eight educators from thirty-four colleges, seminaries and graduate schools gathered on the campus of Emmanuel Bible College in Cebu City for this three-day meeting.

The theme for the meeting was "Church Leadership." The following four main papers were presented: "Church Leadership Development and the Challenges of the 90's," Dr. Isabelo Magalit; "Biblical Perspective on Church Leadership and Ordination," Dr. Dean Fleming; "Historical Models of Church Leadership Development," Dr. William Menzies; and "Church Leadership Development in a Denomination—The CAMACOP (Christian and Missionary Alliance Churches of the Philippines) Story," Dr. Valmike Apuzen. Each paper was followed by a time of interaction and questions with the speaker.

On the second night a banquet was held and the Rev. Jun Vencer spoke on "The Role of Theological Institutions in DAWN 2000 (Discipling of a Whole Nation by the Year 2000)." This proved to be a very stimulating meeting for those colleges seeking to equip biblical leaders for the church. Papers of each topic were given to each delegate to take back to their schools to share with their faculty and staff.

Palawan Bible College's Associate Program is accredited by the Philippine Association of Bible, the Theological Schools (PABATS) and the Asian Theological Association (ATA) at the certificate level. Accreditation is reviewed every five years, which means doing another self-evaluation study of the college. PBC is scheduled for re-evaluation in 1992. In 1992, PBC's

(Turn the Page)

Bachelor Program will be eligible for evaluation for accreditation.

Also while in Cebu City, Fred and Linda visited with the Malinao Family and attended the very first worship service of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship in Basak, Cebu. The Rev. Ludgerio Malinao, ex-president of PBC, and his family transferred to Cebu the last week of August to do church planting work there.

Our schedule in Cebu was a little demanding with meetings starting at 8 a.m. and lasting until 10 p.m. at night, but God had once again taught us many things and enlightened our understanding of His program and method of developing leadership for His church. We praise God for giving us the privilege to attend this meeting and for the fellowship with Christian educators.

COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Thursday, January 11

Spring Semester Classes Begin

Tuesday, January 16

11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel

Spring Convocation, The Rev. J. Malloy Owen, speaker

Tuesday, January 23

11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel

"The Afghan War: A Personal Account," Larry Goodson, speaker

Thursday, February 1

7:30 p.m., Downtown Auditorium, Opera

Thursday, February 15

11 a.m., College Hall

Black History Lecture, The Rev. David C. Forbes, pastor, Main Street Baptist Church, Raleigh

Tuesday, February 27

PROJECT EAST

Featured Speakers: Dr.

William Friday, executive director of the Kenan Charitable Trust, and Mr. Billy Ray Hall, president of the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center. Time and location to be announced.



CHANGE IN THE SUMMER WOMEN'S CONFERENCE — AT CRAGMONT

Beginning with the 1990 summer camping season at Cragmont, the women's conference will meet for one of its weeks in June and for the second week in August. The dates for 1990 will be:

June 11-16—June Women's Conference

August 6-11—August Women's Conference

(There will **not** be a second week of Woman's Conference in August.)

Decide now what week you would like to attend, or maybe you can plan to attend both weeks.

Registrar: Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

Deposit of \$10 should accompany registration.

During both weeks, we tentatively plan to travel to Pigeon Forge, TN, to visit the outlets and to attend the dinner theater, Dixie Stampede.

"WHOM SHALL I SEND, AND WHO WILL GO FOR US?" (Isaiah 6:8)



by Antonio Escobar

In the time of Isaiah, there was a great need to cry out that people repent. In our times, the same cry is needed. Jesus said that we should "pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest." We verified that necessity when we were at the Evangelism Explosion Clinic in Monterrey. There were supposed to have been 80 pastors present, but only half that number were in attendance. It is sad to see the lack of leadership in the churches. Oh, that they would open their hearts and tell the Lord as Isaiah said, "Here am I, send me." Let us pray that our brethren in the churches, as well as pastors, feel passion for souls so that we may say with Paul, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of; for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel."

Let us pray for a greater ministry.

PRAISE HIM!

God's Gift to the Free Will Baptist Church of India



What will you give to restore this building?

For several years we have been concerned about a central church building in India for the Free Will Baptist Church, but the cost of buying property and constructing a building has always been beyond our means.

Dr. Lall showed me this building in 1984. It was an abandoned church building owned by the Church of North India. I wrote the bishop of the church inquiring about a lease, but never received a reply. Dr. Lall, however, would not give up his dream of having this building. He pursued every avenue. Last year the Free Will Baptist people in India set aside each Friday as a day of prayer and fasting for this building. Dr. Lall continued his pursuit. He contacted some government officials for assistance and through a series of events that the Lord directed, the Bishop of the church and the governing board agreed to give this building with four acres of land in the heart of Bareilly to the Free Will Baptist Church of India. We were given the property with a clear title and debt free. The deed was signed and the property transferred on November 10, 1989. This property is worth \$1,726,000.

Friends, this is God's gift to Free Will Baptists. He does answer the fervent prayers of His people. Sandra and I recently visited India and worshiped with our people in this building. The people are so excited. Rejoice with them!

This building was constructed in 1858. It is structurally very sound, but it needs remodeling. **WE NEED YOUR HELP TO RESTORE THIS FINE OLD BUILDING TO ITS ORIGINAL BEAUTY.** Below is a list of different improvements that must be made. These projects are within the reach of many congregations, Sunday School classes, youth groups, etc.

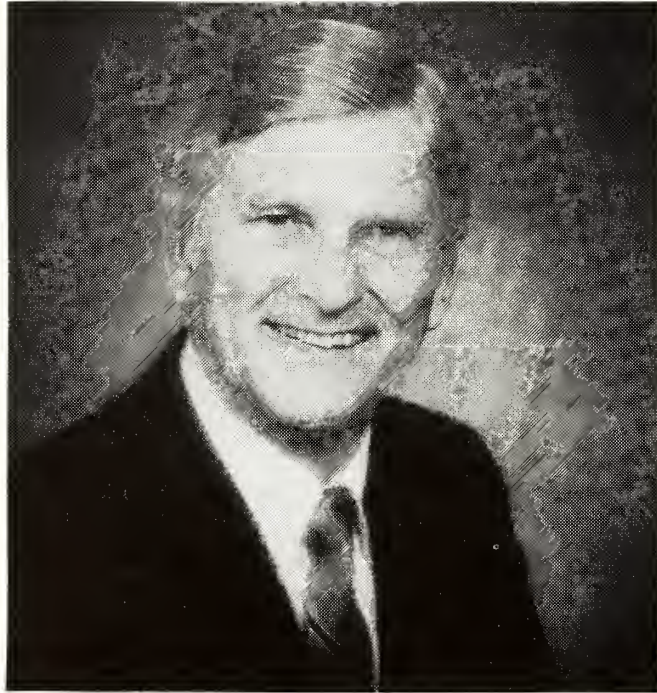
1. Electrification and fans, etc.—\$3,125
2. Replacing of doors and windows—\$2,400
3. Renovation of the building—\$12,500
4. Installation of pipe lines and renovation of toilet—\$625
5. Repairs and caning of benches—\$1,250
6. Supply of altar, altar chairs and ten more benches—\$2,650
7. Boundary wall with two big gates and repair of the road—\$19,900

We need to act as quickly as possible on these projects. Please give a generous gift above your regular missions giving in gratitude for God's blessing to us.

PLEASE REMEMBER: When we ask you to accept special projects, we ask you to accept them above your regular missions giving. The regular monthly support is necessary to continue the mission program.

ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by Board of Foreign Missions



Bill Harding, Speaker

Date: March 16, 1990

Place: Stoney Creek FWB Church, Wayne County

Time: 3:00 P.M. Opening Session

4:00 P.M. Second Session

5:00-7:30 Meal Break (Pastors' Banquet)

7:30 P.M. Mission Rally

This will be an exciting conference. There will be special music in each session. Mark your calendar now and make plans to attend.

Bill serves as minister-at-large for SIM-U.S.A. He served as a missionary to Ethiopia for twelve years in urban and rural ministries.

Rev. Harding is a native of Charlotte, NC. He attended the Citadel and was graduated from Columbia Bible College. He did further studies at Wheaton Graduate School. Bill and his wife, Elaine, are parents of five children.

Bill is a frequent speaker on college and seminary campuses as well as mission conferences across America.

You will surely be blessed for attending.



NEW VIDEOTAPE TO HELP PREVENT CHILD MOLESTATION



- Shows some ways to prevent child molestation
- Intended for viewing by boys 11 through 14 years old
- Valuable for families, youth groups, schools, and churches
- A unique approach to a sensitive object

At the head of this tape is a 4-minute, 40-second Presenter's Orientation for leaders of youth groups to preview prior to showing "A Time to Tell" to the 11- to 14-year-old male audience. Running time is 28 minutes, 36 seconds. This does not include the 4-minute, 40-second introduction.

A Time to Tell explores the problem of sexual molestation through the dramatization of experiences of adolescent boys. Through these experiences, the three R's of youth protection are learned:

- *Recognize* strategies and situations used by child molesters that can lead to attempted molestation.
- *Resist* attempts of child molesters. Resistance will stop most molestations since very few molesters will resort to force.
- *Report* individuals who attempt to molest. This helps to prevent young people from being harmed and provides an opportunity for the molester to get help.

A Time to Tell presents three scenarios depicting common child molesting situations. In the first, Gary's stepfather attempts to molest his stepson using the normal curiosity adolescents have about sex as the lead into an attempted molestation. The second situation shows David, a friend of the family, becoming increasingly personal in his attentions to Jeff, culminating in attempted molestation at David's house after Jeff has helped to clean David's attic. The final scenario involves a secret club operated by an older youth for the purpose of abusing younger members after lowering inhibitions with drugs and alcohol.

A Time to Tell addresses very directly the problem of sexual molestation of adolescent males. The three situations not only dramatize typical molestation situations, but also provide examples of the impact of the molestation attempts on the prospective victims' family members. The video deals with the perceived stigma of homosexuality as a result of sexual molestation by another male. Throughout the video the need to report the attempted assaults to trusted adults is stressed, with reassurances that the victim is not to blame.

Available through the:
Convention Scouting Commission
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513

1989 MOC DINNERS MOST SUCCESSFUL TO DATE

The Free Will Baptist churches of eastern North Carolina contributed \$291,199 to Mount Olive College during the 1989 fall dinners. This amount was an 11% increase over last year. Fifteen of the seventeen dinners exceeded their dinner goals.

There were 1,072 Bridge Builders in the 1989 program, an increase of 21% over last year. Bridge Builders are those who make an unrestricted gift or pledge of \$100 or more.

"Leadership played an important role in the success of the dinners," said Jean F. Ackiss, dinner coordinator. "We are very fortunate to have dedicated county chairmen and volunteers. Their commitment to the purpose of Mount Olive College made the difference in the success of the dinners.

"The contributions received at these dinners help Mount Olive College provide Christian education for the church, state, nation and even foreign countries," declared Mrs. Ackiss. "We appreciate those churches and individuals who support this important work."

The gift support dinners were started in 1963 by the Free Will Baptist churches of eastern North Carolina. During the past 27 years, the dinners have generated \$3.2 million and have helped in the construction of Moyer Library, the Henderson Building, men's and women's dorms, Rodgers Chapel and the development of MOC into a four-year college. The dinners also provide tuition grants for qualified Free Will Baptist students.

SUMMARY OF 1989 DINNERS

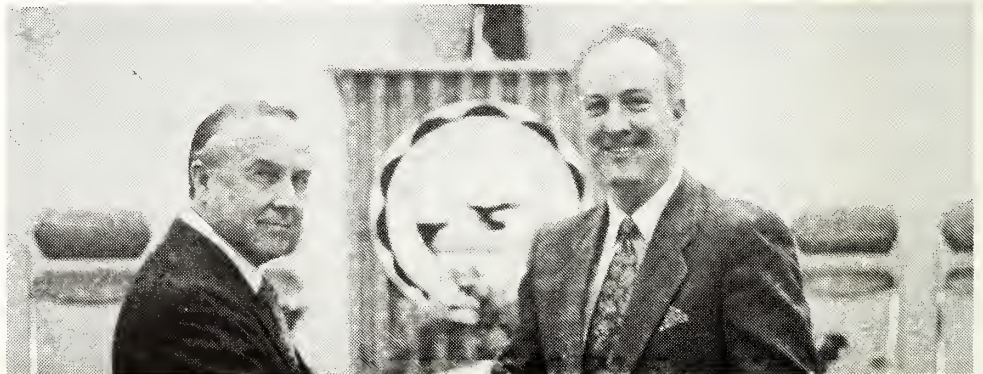
County	County Chairman	Bridge Builders	Gifts
Beaufort	Billy Gurkin	42	\$ 9,413
Carteret	Nathan Garner	46	13,043
	Reginald Styron		
Craven	Miss Marice DeBruhl	57	20,421
Duplin	William D. Thigpen	60	13,092
Edgecombe	Ray Williamson	41	7,971
Halifax			
Greene	Randy Beamon	78	19,424
	Mrs. Lena Walston		
Johnston-Wake	Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hinnant	96	35,413
Jones	Mrs. Mildred Jenkins	14	3,478
Lenoir	Stanley Jenkins	57	13,334
	Melvin Smith		
Nash	Lester Duncan	16	5,232
Onslow	Ronnie Parker	15	4,214
New Hanover			
Brunswick			
Pamlico	Reginald Caroon	27	7,249
Pitt	Tim Tyndall	132	29,026
Sampson	C. Felton Godwin	84	16,565
Harnett			
Cumberland			
Washington	David Cahoon	25	6,542
Tyrrell			
Martin			
Wayne	Mrs. Tempie Jones	148	51,485
Wilson	James B. Hunt	134	35,297
TOTAL		1,072	\$291,199



Berta Edwards (left) and Hilda Price, who both attend St. Mary's Church in Wilson County, tally contributions at the Wilson County gift support dinner. The work of volunteers plays an important role in the success of each dinner.

RECEIVES CERTIFICATE—During Mount Olive College's Founder's Day Service on November 21, the Rev. Ray Williamson received a certificate in recognition of his six years of service as a member of the MOC board of trustees. Pictured presenting the certificate is L. Marvin Edwards of Wilson, chairman of the board.

Mr. Williamson was elected to the board in 1983. He is pastor of First Church, Rocky Mount.





FOUNDER'S DAY—Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Wetherington (left), and their daughter, Mary Alice Wetherington Banks, are pictured with Mrs. Elizabeth Hansley at the Founder's Day program at Mount Olive College. Mrs. Banks was one of the 22 students who attended Mount Olive College in the fall of 1954 during its first year of operation as a junior college. At that time, Mrs. Hansley served as a "house mother" and dietician at the College.

Mr. Wetherington, who now lives in Chesapeake, VA, is a member of the MOC Board of Trustees.

FOUNDER'S DAY HELD AT MOC Martin Honored

Mount Olive College held its 38th annual Founder's Day Service on November 21 in College Hall. During the service it was announced that the Board of Trustees had named the biology laboratory in honor of Mrs. Lorelle Franck Martin, a professor of biology at MOC for 30 years. Mrs. Martin retired in May 1987 and was named "Professor of Biology Emerita" in May 1989.

Three former students, Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt Roberts of Calypso and Wayne Roberts of Davidson, all of whom Mrs. Martin taught while at Calypso High School, donated an oil portrait of her to be placed outside the biology lab. The portrait was unveiled during the service.

Mrs. Martin came to MOC in 1957 after several years teaching at the high school level. During her career, she was instrumental in the development of the science department into a modern laboratory equipped for biology and chemistry courses.

DR. BILLY WIREMAN DELIVERS FOUNDER'S DAY ADDRESS

by Dr. Pepper Worthington
Professor of English

Dr. Billy Warren, president of Queens College in Charlotte, spoke for the occasion. Firmly he said, "We must disengage ourselves from the immediacy of the moment. We must ask

ourselves why colleges like Mount Olive are important. Why did Baptists in 1636 establish Harvard?"

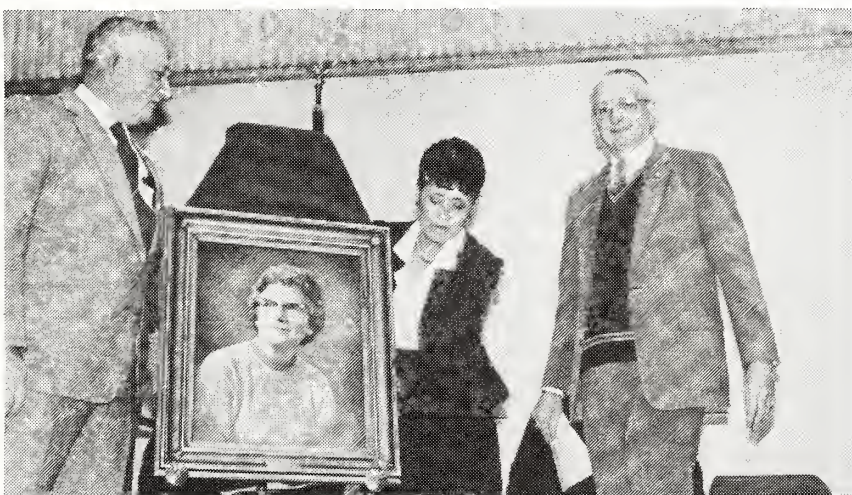
The wind whipped across the campus as Dr. Wireman stressed the essential value of combining curiosity and Christian living. "Human beings are by nature both curious and incomplete," he said. "There is a gnawing longing in each of us which is not fulfilled by materialism. A church-related college has a dual nature: the coming together of the church and the academy. There are over 700 church-related schools in the United States today."

To emphasize the importance of moral values in the education process, Dr. Wireman praised Lorelle Martin, a teacher who embodies the best of scholarship and Christian living.

Dr. Wireman quoted a student writing about Mrs. Martin. "She integrated scientific knowledge with Christian faith, she brought out the best in her students."

Passionately Dr. Wireman asked, "What does a church-related college and the life of Lorelle F. Martin have to say to us in the times that we find ourselves?"

(Turn the Page)



MARTIN HONORED—Wayne Roberts, left, and Dorothy Roberts, unveil a portrait of Mrs. Lorelle Martin which will be placed outside the "Lorelle Franck Martin Biology Laboratory" in the Henderson Building. It was announced during Mount Olive College's Founder's Day Service on November 21 that the College had named the biology lab in her honor. Wyatt Roberts, right, his wife Dorothy and brother Wayne, donated the portrait. Mrs. Martin taught all three at Calypso High School.

What about this time of history? Dr. Wireman observed the political upheaval of Soviet communism. "Billions of dollars pour into our defense programs, we want to be so strong no one would dare attack us. What would happen if war became obsolete? Think about it. Maybe the crumbling Soviet meltdown, the decay of communism, and all the current momentous events along the eastern bloc and in East Germany will take us to the point where we have to begin to prepare for peace. Wouldn't that be wonderful?"

"Yet if the world must shift from a war mentality to a peace mentality, what role should a church-related college play? The problems of peace are more complex than those of war."

As communism crumbles, ten million East Germans visits West Berlin, as the eastern bloc is shifting toward democracy, a question emerges. Dr. Wireman asked, "What is driving these people in the eastern bloc?" Slowly he said, "What drives them is the concept of freedom, the longing to order one's life as one sees fit."

Dr. Wireman stressed the value of freedom in America. Freedom abounds in our religion, economics, and politics. Our temptation to throw up our hands in the face of the problems of peace and escape into our own selfish interests must be avoided. Where do we turn?

Emphatically he said, "We turn to the church to learn more. We struggle to find that sense of wholeness."

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, declared Psalm 24 to be the trumpet call to what Mount Olive College seeks to be.

The world and all that is in it belong to the LORD; the earth and all who live on it are his.

"Lorelle Martin reflects our growth. She has served students

from 1957 to 1987. She has integrated knowledge and high academic, Christian values. She is the source of inspiration and confidence. She represents what Mount Olive College seeks to offer: solid learning with Christian values. I assure you, a college is only as good as its teachers. And

Lorelle Martin reflects what Mount Olive College is all about."

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Rosebud Church, Route 4, Wilson, is in need of a part-time pastor. Interested ministers should contact Faye Norfleet (236-4133) or Allen Bradshaw (237-7955, 237-6393).

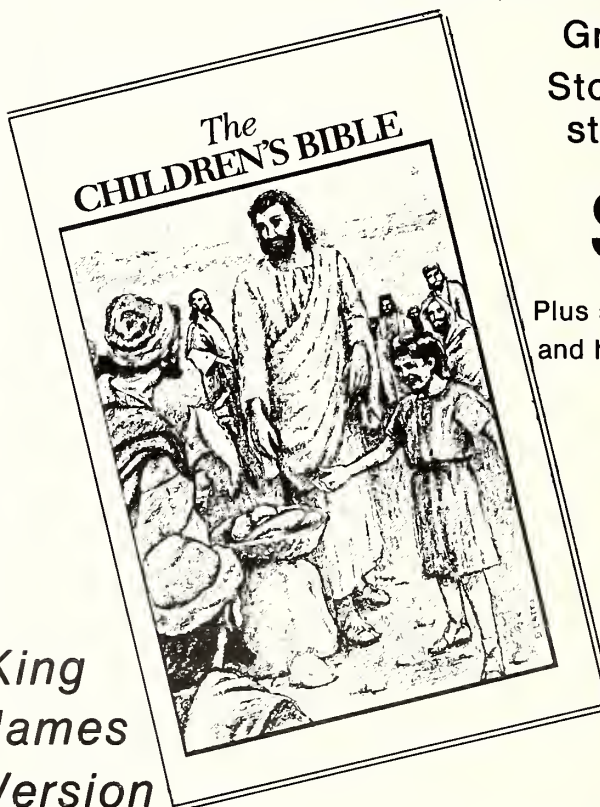
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JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH



The Board of Directors requests from each Convention church and pastor:

1. Remember this ministry and each family in our care in prayer each Sunday this month.
2. Use our bulletin on Sunday, January 28, for your printed order of service.
3. Share information about this ministry with your congregation on a Sunday of your choice in January.
4. Please announce beforehand and receive a love offering on January 28.
5. Send now for at least one package of *coin folders*. Each package holds ten folders. Each folder will hold \$10 in quarters. Each Convention church could in this way contribute \$100 to Retirement Homes without the interruption of an offering or budget appropriation.

Your cooperation, prayers and gift support will give us the thrust we need as we enter the decade of the 90's. Contact our office and any kind and number of printed materials mentioned above will be mailed immediately.

Our telephone number is (919) 746-4963.

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WHAT CAN YOUR GROUP DO FOR OLDER ADULTS?

What could you, your church group or your family do to help older adults living alone or in retirement homes at this time of year?

Here is a list of ideas:

- Bring the church van and take a group to your church's services or programs or to the local mall for one of the many free programs.

- Call the activity director and ask which residents would most enjoy or who most needs a visit. Then just drop in and talk for a while.

- Invite a resident (or two or three) to your home for a meal or

to your Sunday School class or a special group party or meeting.

- Don't leave children out of the visit. Mission groups for children or young people might sponsor a sing-along.

- Volunteer to do shopping for a resident who cannot get out.

- Consider helping older adults with limited resources by contributing money toward the purchase of presents for their families or friends. Or buy a box of gift items that the home's activity director can make available to those residents who would like to give gifts but who don't have the extra money.

- Skip visiting during the holidays—you're busy then anyway—and sponsor a Winter Party. Or bring a group of children in to visit the older adults.

- Sponsor an old-fashioned pounding to collect food staples for the homes.

- Consider giving a magazine subscription to a large-print publication to the home.

- Give holiday decorations, napkins, placemats that can dress up the dinner table.

- The homes can always use gifts as prizes for Bingo games during the year or to replace items that get used up quickly. They need toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps or liquid soap, lotion, powder, small packages of tissues, pens, pencils, stamps, stationery, socks and stockings (not panty hose), thread and buttons, shaving cream, razors, towels, washcloths, greeting cards, fingernail clippers, Nerf balls (great for arthritic hands), small blankets or lap robes, sweaters, combs, brushes, trial sizes of items (great Bingo prizes).

Reprinted from *Biblical Recorder* (Baptist Retirement Homes article), December 2, 1989.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE BEST GIFT MIGHT BE TIME

Time—something we all feel is in short supply, particularly at the holidays—is an invaluable gift to share with older adults.

A lot of people who have family members in retirement and nursing homes spend time with them during the holidays. Some do not. Those older adults who have little or no family would love for someone to come spend some time with them.

The Adopt-a-Grandparent program might work well for your

church group. In this program, individuals agree to visit retirees all year round. Participants visit on holidays and their birthdays, take them to church occasionally, and sometimes invite them into their homes.

Consider visits in January, February or March—the “long, dry, cold months.” “Come then,” one worker suggests to groups. “It’s too cold for these folks to get out. They would love visits all during the winter, not just at the holidays.”

She added: “Groups who don’t have programs to perform or gifts to bring can do just as much by spending some time visiting. What these people enjoy more than anything is for someone to visit their room. Their room is their home. They want you to come visit them in their home.”

Consider the Adopt-a-Grandparent program. You will be glad you did.

Adapted from *Biblical Recorder* (Baptist Retirement Homes article), December 2, 1989.





IN A WORD: CYCLES

by Norman Jameson, Editor, *Charity and Children*

Because my wife is an excellent planner, she only does major grocery shopping twice a month.

And because we have three growing children, her cart overflows.

Her laden cart often draws unsolicited comments from other shoppers. Yesterday a bag boy (he must have been new) said he had never seen a cash register ticket that big!

An older woman, her arms full of single serving meals and cans in small sizes, knew there must be some hungry mouths around our table. And she remembered the days when her own house was full of laughter and noisy kids and lots of cooking and cleaning and running errands.

"These are your best days," she told a weary Sue Ellen. "Cherish them. I know they seem hectic and it's hard to clean up after them and cook for them all but it's a lot harder to cook for two, or one."

I often catch senior adults' wistful glances at our family.

Their eyes focus back a few decades, remembering when their little ones tagged along, begging for every chocolate item on the shelves, tossing in a bag of cookies when mom was looking at the green beans.

It's hard to imagine an empty house now. It's 13 years before our youngest leaves to set academic standards at Harvard, or scoring records at Notre Dame. I mean, after all, he just started kindergarten last month.

But just as surely as he crowded the back seat, prompted bunk beds and prolonged the diaper pail, he will also flee the nest as part of the living, learning and leaving cycle in which we circulate.

Cycles pump fresh new blood through the veins of our lives, just as the heart pushes the blood to our fingertips and toe nails. Unless blood returns to the heart, it gets stale and starved for oxygen. Then the body suffers.

Going to school, used to be cyclical for me, for all too many

years. Certain triggers snapped forward, setting other events into motion and soon I was sitting behind Debbie Shew again, wondering if she would ever get a "B," and how anyone that cute could be that smart.

Then I was out of school and the thick, pungent odor of corn pollen, the crackle of dead and drying leaves and fall clothing sales no longer signaled a return to the classroom.

And now, my children are in school. The cycle is back in place. We look forward to spring so the kids are home, and cheer fall so they're back in school!

But other cycles impact us heavily. The monthly pay cycle the weekly work cycle, the daily routine, the quarterly insurance payments, weekend church activities, monthly deadlines, holidays, nightly prayers and back scratches, summer vacations.

Birth and death.

Cycles are our reference points as life spins in the maelstroms that assail us. When bewildered by change, when beset by the death or divorce of loved ones, by illness or unemployment, or by a move, our dependable cycles reorder our lives.

But the great cycle, the all-encompassing trip from birth to death, strikes fear in the hearts of many who consider its advance. The lonely widows who envy a full shopping cart or the lonely widower jealous of couples strolling hand in hand know the cycle of life has exacted their greatest resource as its full and awful tariff.

Those at the end of the cycle read the signs. When they look at others riding the early legs of life's cycles they are not so much envying that stretch of the circle. They're thinking of that last connecting link back to the beginning they've still to face.

In Jesus, they can be ready.

—*The Biblical Recorder*, November 4, 1989.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



MY FREE WILL BAPTIST HERITAGE IN RELATION TO EVANGELISM

by the Rev. Walter Sutton

Texts: Psalm 16:6; Jeremiah 3:19; Philippians 3:5-6; Romans 11:1

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage (Psalm 16:6).

Because Saul, king of Israel, was disobedient to Jehovah's commands, the dynasty was to be removed from him and his family. Samuel was directed to the house of Jesse, the Bethlehemite; there he would anoint David, the eighth son of Jesse to become the second king of the United Kingdom of Israel (1 Samuel 16:1-13). Time passed and Saul became exceedingly jealous of David. David despaired for his life. He exiled himself to the heathen land of the Philistines where he lived for a year and four months.

The Philistines were wicked, immoral and idol-worshiping people. Above all, they were border enemies of Israel. David, out of his homeland of blessing, living among people whose gods were plenty, prompted him to think of his own land and family. He was thankful that he was descended

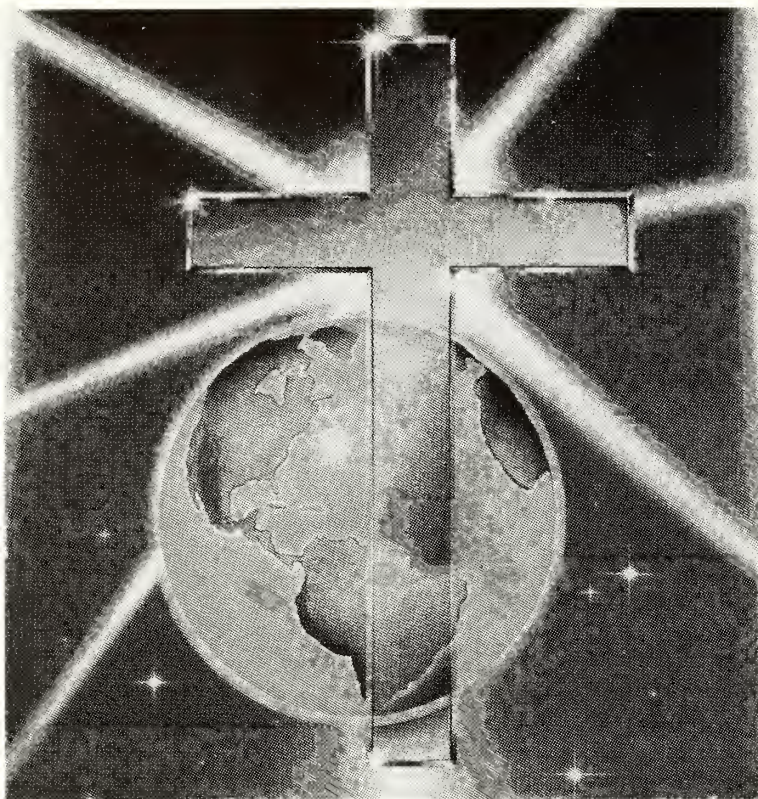
from Abraham, the father of his nation. He was thankful for Moses who gave Israel her laws of worship and government. He was thankful for Joshua and Caleb for leading Israel to their land and dividing it justly to each tribe. He was thankful that his people served and worshiped the one true God—Jehovah. So, he concluded, "The lines have measured me a good measure, I have a goodly heritage."

Out of these circumstances David composed this psalm. But there is a higher truth in here, in this body of Scripture. He speaks of a greater One who would descend from him who would walk the sands and rocks of his homeland, be rejected, crucified and resurrected to sit upon David's throne and establish a kingdom that would be without end. This higher truth speaks of the Jewish Messiah, Jesus Christ.

"But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? and I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me" (Jeremiah 3:19).

At this point in Israel's history, the United Kingdom had crumbled into two lesser powers.

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The ten northern tribes had already fallen to the iron hand of the Assyrians. Jeremiah, the prophet of mourning, had insight into the future that Judah would fall to Babylon unless she repented and turned back to serving Jehovah. His call to Judah was not heeded. Judah fell captive to Babylon in 587-586 B.C. Jeremiah witnessed the deportation of Jews from their homeland. It is likely he witnessed the destruction of the temple, its altars, and walls of the city. He mourned such destruction and dispersing of the people. He mourned because the generation behind him would never know the heritage he had known. He mourned because Israel's glory had "gone with the wind."

"Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless" (Philippians 3:5-6).

"I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin" (Romans 11:1).

Paul was a Jew, born in Tarsus, a free city of Roman power. He was reared and taught according to Judaism. Even though his nation was a vassal of Rome, he was never ashamed that he descended from Abraham through the tribe of Benjamin. The customs and laws of Israel he strictly observed and believed that others should do the same. There was no room in his heart for any

other religion. While enroute to Damascus one day, he was converted. He was helped to understand that Jesus Christ, whom his nation a few years earlier in Jerusalem had condemned and forced the hand of Rome to crucify, was the Jewish Messiah—the Son of God. Then and there Saul of Tarsus believed that Jesus Christ was the Son of God. With this new experience he spent the rest of his life preaching this new gospel. Even though he was a Christian, he was always proud and never ashamed of his Jewish heritage. There was always an element of sorrow that burdened his soul, because before his conversion, he had persecuted many of his brethren who had accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour. A proud man he was because his nation had brought forth the Son of God who offered his nation a kingdom and the world at large a Saviour.

As I sit here in the wee hours of morning darkness, these three bodies of Scripture form the premise and basis for my reflection. Just as these men of Israel at a given period in their life reflected upon their heritage, which was so important to them, I am now reflecting upon mine. Faithful men before me founded and preserved for me a church with such a rich heritage that none other could compare. Our doctrines are preachable, believable, and practicable. They adorn the teaching of Christ. Our form of church government is so simple, useful, and conducive for good business and internal growth that the smallest and weakest member can identify with it. Our denominational structure is fixed, yet flexible enough that we can reach out (as we often have—to our sorrow, in some cases) and receive those who seek to help us promote the gospel of Christ. The door of opportunity is open wide to any person seeking to serve Christ in a responsible way, whether it be on the local church level or in the higher echelon of denominational life. No man among us today knows this any better than myself. The outreach ministries our churches are requested to support are so purposed that Christian helps and service are available to all people

regardless of need or stage of life. Moreover, those who need our gospel will be prepared for a better eternity.

The Original Free Will Baptist Church is the only church I have known. It is the only one I wish to know. As stated earlier in this paper, the generation of Free Will Baptists before left me a goodly heritage. I'd like this heritage to be left for the oncoming generation. I wish for my two sons and their families, my daughter and her family to live each day of their lives with all the security, purity and fellowship that I have known as a member and pastor in our beloved church and denomination. I am mighty thankful they are members of Marlboro Church, Farmville, which has a strong biblical ministry, a loving pastor and wife and congregation who care for their spiritual well-being. I am thankful that my five grandchildren are enrolled in Sunday School where each Lord's Day they are taught the love of Christ and the way of salvation. The worship services and other activities are geared at every level so as to use their talents and material resources.

My Free Will Baptist heritage began in the fall of 1944. As a twelve-year-old boy, I drove a pair of mules with a wagon loaded with furniture to a farm my father had purchased near Lewis' Store in Greene County. My memory will not let me forget that day. It was beautiful, the sun shown brightly, but it was so cold. My journey began early in the morning on Route 58, ten miles on the Kinston side of Snow Hill. We went through downtown Snow Hill and turned on the Walstonburg road to Castoria, turning on a dirt road called the Cubaloo road. Finally, late in the afternoon, two tired mules and a cold boy crossed the property lines to my new home. Soon thereafter we were invited to Friendship Church. I joined the Sunday School class and Daddy and Mama took membership with the church. The church was located two or maybe three miles from home. It was convenient for regular attendance without excuse. I'm sure there were some Sundays when I was absent. During these formative years at home, church and public school at Walstonburg, my morals and values shaped me into a young man of character and reputation. During my senior year at school, Faye (my wife) walked into my life. A couple of years after graduation, we were married by our pastor, Brother R. L. Norville. Faye had a very determining influence in my conversion experience. I must always be grateful for her Christian influence. An evangelist came to Farmville in 1952 and erected a gospel tent. Each night he preached. My parents and church people encouraged me to attend the services. On Wednesday evening after hearing the sermon, I responded to

the gospel call. Brother L. B. Manning was present in the service with other Free Will Baptist ministers. He instructed me in the way of salvation and the other ministers encouraged me to continue in the Lord. A short time later, I was baptized and received in the membership of Friendship Church. That was a time of rejoicing for the church and my parents, who today are present with the Lord. To this day, mine and Faye's membership is at Friendship. When our life here is ended, having made our feeble mark for the cause of Christ and His blessed gospel, may some gifted hand take up the pen and write beside our names the words, "Departed home."

Upon my conversion, baptism and membership, the congregation at Friendship opened wide the doors of opportunities for Christian service. They helped me, they prayed for me, they loved me. Their support meant more to me than words now can tell. From my work performance in Sunday School, Bible School, prayer meeting and other church activities, I realized my call to the gospel ministry. Upon approval of the Central Conference, the church granted me a license to preach the gospel while reaching my educational requirement for ordination.

The pastors of the church were supportive, understanding and helpful. Brothers J. D. Vernelson, R. L. Norville, W. H. Willis, and C. D. Hamilton taught me much truth about the church, union meeting and conference. I cannot, I must not, upon pain of conscience and sickness of soul, forget these good men of faith and the gospel. I am forever in their debt. The congregation at Friendship reached out to me and embraced me with grace and love and I have always felt their prayer support. They share in whatever success that comes to me, because they invested in a young man who was unlearned and unskilled, but willing to meet the challenge. Because of their love, encouragement, and support, I am in the work of evangelism today.

What is evangelism? Simply stated, "The communication in biblical language of the *gospel call* to all for whom Christ died." The purpose of the gospel is to convince all who hear it, that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and the atonement He accomplished at Calvary is sufficient to save all who will believe. There is no Christian activity more sublime or service that offers more possibility than that of witnessing and winning a soul from a life of sin to a new life in Christ. The world is extremely worldly. The social order is irreligious to the core. The hope of a better world, with better people and social conditions lies in the possibility of the rule of Christ in the hearts of individuals. We all live in a world filled with those who have

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never believed (maybe some haven't yet heard) the gospel and received its Saviour. These people are lost. They are lost to themselves. They are lost to God. They are lost to the highest and best purpose of life. They are lost in time; they will be lost throughout eternity, unless they are won to Christ. The sinful effects of sin upon the lost of the world are many.

A consecrated Christian walked the streets of New York City while visiting there sometime ago. When he saw the homeless, drug addicts, drunks and those whose life had no purpose, values or morals, his heart was broken and he uttered to himself, "Oh, the sinfulness of sin." Character is collapsing all around us today. We hear and read daily of fraud and graft in all areas of public life. Our jails today hold those of every rank and walk in life. Many homes are broken; children who need their parents are without them. Corruption of character is the underlying cause. More dreadful than all the effects of sin upon the lost person, is the shocking thought of his sinful influence left after death. It remains to ruin and ruin and ruin. Even though the lost die and remain in their sin forever, they have left behind their sinful example and influence for others to follow. Only a changed heart and a new life in Christ can make the difference. The gospel of Christ presents the opportunity of change—but—let us remember, only God can bring about that change.

The challenge is before us all. The urgency and necessity are there. None understood this better than Jesus. He always respected human personality and never used the method of "lording it over" anyone. Certainly, He wanted them to follow Him in newness of life, but He did not try to force their unwillful decision. Jesus loved people; the religious parties of His day did not understand Him. Though they often received His sharpest rebukes, there is clear evidence that He loved the souls of the scribe, Pharisee, and other hypocrites of that day. Whenever He saw a chance to lead them to new life and faith, He proceeded. He respected their will and personality. He used every just opportunity to lead them to a willful decision to follow Him. Here lies the basis and premise of my heritage in evangelism.

Pastors of the recent past, who today are with the Lord, whom I loved and respected, proclaimed evangelism from these vantage points. They preached the love of Christ, they respected the will of the individual and were always ready to instruct those who responded to the gospel.

I think this is the way of excellence in evangelism. It will give us and our denomination the best results. If Christians can love people with the same kind of love Jesus had for the lost, they

will find the time to witness and win them. Compassion for the lost and a genuine desire to see them saved will offset any handicap or hindrance encountered by a witnessing church or individual. It will overshadow the stammering tongue, lack of proper method or educational inadequacies. Love and compassion are vital to successful evangelism.

The remaining portion of this paper will address some areas in our church and denominational life where our efforts in evangelism might be better preserved in the context stated above. Let any who might be interested enough to read these lines understand clearly, I am not pointing an accusing finger or offering all the answers. This is my feeble effort to be a part of the solution for the glory of our church, denomination and salvation of the lost.

(1) *Preaching and the gospel invitation.* The grand object of preaching is to proclaim with persuasion the gospel of Christ, His life, His death, burial and glorious Resurrection, convincing each hearer of the urgency of receiving Christ as both Saviour and Lord. When the preaching is ended, there should be an invitation. *An invitation only.* Not another sermon or portion of the one preached, preached again. My soul becomes exceedingly tired when having to endure long extended, "one more verse if no one comes" invitations. Let each reader understand my thinking here. The sermon, if it is biblical, creates an environment in which the Holy Spirit works. He gives life and meaning to gospel words. The hearer is awakened, the soul is touched and the need for salvation is shown. The hearer is ready to respond upon invitation. A meaningful invitation is the crowning moment of gospel preaching. I conclude this chain of thought with the following statement: "Empty preaching makes empty altars."

(2) *The gospel call and procrastination.* Many times in revivals and denominational meetings have I heard the brother preaching say, "You can't be converted at the time and place of your choice. If you are hearing the call now, you'd better come. You might never be called again." With added authority John 6:44 is read or more often quoted from memory, "No man can come to me, except the Father who hath sent me draw him." Now we should try to keep our thinking straight at this point. These are the words of Jesus recorded by John, the beloved apostle. They are not to be tampered with or taken lightly. They are sacred. When John heard them they impressed him so much he never forgot them. When he recorded them in his Gospel, I expect he remembered the very day and hour Jesus spoke them. If we follow the historical, grammatical contextural rule for

interpretation, the truth recorded in this verse will be transferred to our mind and heart.

John the Baptist came from the wilderness of Judea to the Jordan Valley. There he began announcing to Israel the coming of their king. He called upon each Jew to repent in preparation for the coming king and establishment of the Jewish kingdom. Soon Jesus joined John in the Jordan Valley. John announced to Israel, "Here is your king. The establishment of the kingdom is near." From one end of Palestine to the other the name of Jesus became the topic of conversation. The common people believed and followed Jesus. The Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes and priests of Israel came to hear Him; they questioned His words, asked Him questions and challenged His authority. With rare exception they all rejected Jesus as their Messiah and began to set in motion plans that would condemn Him to death by the hand of Rome. Upon His death, Resurrection and Ascension, Jesus knew His gospel would be proclaimed first to the Jewish nation in Jerusalem during the feast of Pentecost. From there, it would be heralded beyond the land of Palestine. Paul would carry it to the known world. His gospel would be preached by men whom He called for this purpose. The Holy Spirit would accompany the message. He would be the agent of illumination and regeneration. The gospel call would be extended to all through the preaching of His finished atoning work at Calvary. The Holy Spirit would regenerate all who hear and respond favorably. They would be positioned into the body of Christ. Simply put, any man, woman, boy or girl upon hearing the gospel of Christ can be converted any time, any place, anywhere.

Those who hear and do not respond procrastinate, in essence they delay in making a decision to receive Christ as Saviour. To resist the call of God for salvation is not wise. Many are the Scriptures that warn against delayed acceptance of Christ. The gospel call is extended with urgency based upon uncertainty of life, time and the imminency of Christ's return in rapture. If the initial statement in this division of this paper is true, there is no procrastination, no delay, no unfavorable response. The sinner will be called at a time and place chosen by God. Unable to resist, he will obey. The salient facts of the matter are as we have been taught. The gospel call and the atonement of Christ are coextensive to all men and are effectual upon their favorable response any time, any place, anywhere in any generation. If any man fails in his opportunity of salvation, the fault is wholly his own.

(3) *Vocal, visible assenting gestures in response to a declared truth.* Biblical words and phrases are today being uttered while worship is in

progress out of their biblical context and often out of harmony with what the speaker is saying. The words "Amen," "Praise the Lord," "Hallelujah," "Glory to God," are beautiful and meaningful when used in their biblical context, but are degraded when used just to be heard or because the speaker called for some kind of response from the listeners. These utterances should genuinely reflect the sincerity of the soul, giving praise to God by assenting to a declared biblical truth spoken by the speaker. The acts of "hand-holding, hand-clapping, arm-lifting, prayer groups and love feasts" are new innovations of worship for me. I can't imagine Brother Lloyd Vernon, David W. Hansley, or Walter Reynolds practicing any such. These brethren, like myself, and many others today consider such acts out of character with our traditional way of worship. Although these gestures of fellowship may be practiced in the name of spirituality, the truth of the matter is, they have nothing or very little to do with it. The spiritual depth of the believer has a firmer scriptural foundation.

The expression of faith in worship and praise of God is a moving, inspiring, unforgettable experience. The believer's spiritual depth can be measured only by his awareness of God's presence and increasing knowledge of God and His will, resulting in consecration and dedication, separation to God for whatever service might be rendered, and corporate fellowship and cooperation in promoting the blessed gospel of Christ.

The Prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and others were aware of God's presence and their responsibility to Israel. Their experience in the temple made them into the kind of men with vision whom God could and did use. When Paul visited Corinth, he encountered much opposition from heathenism and the Jews toward the gospel he had come there to declare. Jesus spoke to him saying, "Be not afraid, but speak and hold not your words, for I am with you and no man shall set on you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city" (Acts 18:9-10). Receiving such encouragement he remained there, holding fast his principles of evangelism, *teaching the Word of God*. For a year and six months the people of Corinth heard the Word of God taught from the lips of this saintly apostle. All this time the message of Jesus was taking hold in the hearts of many Corinthians. In spite of continual mounting opposition, the Word of God flourished throughout the city. Upon his departure he left behind an organized body of believers. With many problems to be overcome, nevertheless they were a witnessing church committed to the task of promoting the gospel of Christ to Corinth and the world.

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Biblical spirituality is the heritage of every believer. The Holy Spirit will develop the qualities of spirituality in us upon our submission to His leadership. These qualities are (as stated earlier in this paper) an awareness of God's continual presence, an increasing knowledge of God's Word and will, a compassion for the lost, coupled with cooperation and fellowship in evangelizing the lost. These qualities glorify Jesus—not the individual. The primary end of God in evangelism comes into focus here. The salvation of the sinner is secondary. The glory of God is primary in salvation. Christian works are the substance and evidence of faith. They make beautiful and successful our evangelistic endeavors. The work of evangelism is not easy. It requires compassion and action. The qualities of spirituality are not easily developed in the believer. Few have been willing to yield to the will of the Holy Spirit. The development of these inner qualities in any believer will make him a successful soul winner.

(4) *I'm hearing a new kind of theology expressed in language:* "Expect a miracle today," promises of physical healing, and a salvation that assures every believer "instant prosperity."

The question is justly posed at this point, "What is a miracle in the biblical sense?" They are the works of God evident in the world of men that attest to His power and supremacy. They exhibit the character of God and teach truths concerning Him. They are always in character with His essence, existence and attributes. Otherwise, they are of Satan—lying wonders. Miracles that were performed directly by God or through human agency produced a "wonder," an "amazement" in those who witnessed them. The miracle was a sign that God was near, something more than the ordinary course of events. Someone greater than any human being was accomplishing His purpose and claiming attention. Human eyes beheld the works of God—a miracle attesting to His power and supremacy.

I think maybe what some today are calling miracles are not miracles in the biblical sense at all. The creative acts of God recorded in the early chapters of Genesis were not miracles because they did not attest of His power and supremacy to anyone. Scripture does not represent God as having brought the universe into existence as a sign of attestation. The acts of God through Moses in the court of Pharaoh and before Israel at the shoreline of the Red Sea *were* miracles. God's power was manifested through Moses in the presence of Pharaoh and the heathen members of his court. They were helpless before the God of Moses. When the waters of the Red Sea were rolled back and dry land lay before Israel, that, my friend, was a

miracle. When the waters remained for Israel to cross and receded when their crossing was completed—that *was* a miracle. It attested to the power of God over the sea—His creation—to the Israelites. No human agency could ever accomplish the holy conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary in the fashion described in the Gospels. No human agency could cause the believing sinner to be "born again," make him a new creation and position him in the body of Christ in the fashion described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:13. Such miraculous regenerating power belongs only to God through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Every born-again person can attest to this truth—to God be the glory.

Miracles come upon the stage of biblical history sometime before the Jewish exodus. They continue through the Old Testament. Miracles were performed by God through His spokesmen to Israel to authenticate their person and message. The miracles proved to Israel that God was the only true and living God whom Israel should serve and the men declaring His message were sent by God to them. Moreover, the miracles distinguished the true prophets of God from those who were false.

Miracles reached their peak in the ministry of Jesus. They authenticated His *words, works, and person* to Israel. The leadership of Israel never accepted Jesus as their Messiah; they attributed His power to perform miracles to Satan. Jesus' miracles arose out of His great compassion for people whose spiritual and physical needs were of such magnitude that only He by His power could supply. Many were those who received help from His merciful hands. Joy spread over the land of the Jews by the good that Jesus did. His example is ours to follow. Upon His ascension to His father, the feast of Pentecost having arrived, the apostles declared to the Israelites again that Jesus was their Messiah. Their message was attested to by the descent of the Holy Spirit enabling them to speak the gospel into the ears of all celebrating Pentecost. Each listener heard the message in his own language. God, through the Holy Spirit, articulated the tongues of the apostles and opened the ears of each Jew so he could hear these words in his own language and understand their meaning, "You men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you, as you yourselves also know." That, my friend, was a miracle.

Subsequent to Pentecost, the gospel of Christ (His death, burial, Resurrection) was declared beyond the walls of Jerusalem and the boundary of Palestine. The Apostle Paul carried it to the known

world. Miracles attesting to God's power and supremacy in a visible way diminished. Miracles are barely mentioned beyond the *Acts transition*. The Holy Spirit attests to the preaching of the gospel of Christ today. His accompaniment gives life to the gospel, making possible the miracle of regeneration of sinners. He too illumines the believer's mind to receive spiritual truth. He enables the believer to communicate it to others. *The miracle of regeneration is the miracle of our day.*

Should I expect this miracle to occur today? Yes! Our grand hope of evangelizing the lost people around us is contingent upon the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit as we declare the gospel of Christ to them. This blessed gospel needs no other miracle. If it did, I believe one would have been performed when the aged Paul stood in the heathen court of Nero defending his Roman citizenship, his Jewish heritage and the gospel of Christ. In the spring of the year 1521, Charles V, emperor of the Roman Empire, summoned Martin Luther to appear before him and the noble princes and clergymen at Worms, Germany. He was asked by the court to retract his actions and teachings at Castle Church. The German scholar defended his writings, the gospel of Christ, and his right to preach them to the German people. Pope Leo X had previously excommunicated him from the church. He stood before the court of King Charles an outlaw. Luther would not retract his teachings. He left the meeting a branded man protected only by a few friends. If the gospel of Christ needed miracles of the sort some are presently claiming, one would have been performed in defense of Luther's position. The words of Sir Robert Anderson are as relevant today as when he uttered them many years ago in England, "The days of the rushing mighty wind, the tongues of fire, the earthquake shock are past. The anchor of the Christian's hope is firmly fixed in the veiled realities of Heaven. He endures as seeing Him who is invisible."

Sundry and divers have been the claims made in behalf of divine physical healing. The emphasis upon it today could almost have us believing that God wills none to be sick. Any who become sick are assured of being healed instantly upon approbation of sufficient faith. The crucial question at this point is, "Does the atonement accomplished by Christ at Calvary provide for the physical healing of the body?" The classic bodies of Scripture to which proponents turn for biblical support are Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24. They single out the statements which say, "... and with his stripes we are healed," "by whose stripes we are healed."

A close look at these bodies of Scripture, ob-

serving the historical, grammatical, contextual method of interpretation, will reveal the subject at hand is the sufferings and death of Christ becoming an atonement for our sins, making possible salvation for every soul who would hear His gospel and appropriate their faith in Christ as Saviour and Lord. *Divine physical healing* is *not* being discussed in these texts at all. To lift them out of context is to do harm to the Scripture. To read into Scripture what we want it to say is a dangerous practice. We are subject to deceive ourselves and those who are being taught. It is the believer's responsibility to correctly exegete the Scripture—not eisegete it. Proponents of physical healing reply by calling attention to Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever." I venture to say there are none who will read these lines and who will question the integrity of this verse of Scripture. God in His essence, attributes and existence remains forever unchanged. His methods of communication and dealing with His creation does change. Once He governed Israel theocratically, speaking directly or through the prophets. Today He speaks to us through His Word and governs by the Holy Spirit who dwells in every believer.

The point the writer makes here is that Jesus Christ is the only way to the Father. He is forever—the "*way, the truth and the life.*" He urges these Jewish believers to never forsake their liberty in Christ for the bondage of the Law from which they had been freed. If physical healing is a provision of Christ's atonement, it was not sufficient to heal Paul of his thorn. He left Trophimus at Miletus sick and encouraged Timothy to drink a little wine for the health of his body.

What shall I say of the many faithful saints since the first century who have endured pain, sickness, and persecution, who did not experience instantaneous healing of their bodies? Shall we conclude their faith was not sufficient? I declare not. Their faith, like many today, is as great as were those at Pentecost—yea, even before Pentecost. If physical healing is a provision of the atonement, a sickly diseased body should be as instantaneously healed upon appropriation of faith as the vilest, most wretched sinner is forgiven of sin and positioned in the body of Christ. The biblical facts are the redeemed sinner continues to live in his body of weakness without immunity from sickness or disease, without promise of instantaneous healing, but fully assured God's grace will always be enough and the Holy Spirit will always be present to comfort. Let it be remembered, it takes more than blood or death or hope of man to redeem this corruptible body in which we live. Only the power of God manifested in resurrection can

(Turn the Page)

accomplish this, and praise be to God He will bring it to pass at the time of His choice.

In the meantime, it behooves us to claim the lessons of patience, humility, prayer, and dependence upon God for physical strength. These lessons will last on and on. They can help mold us into the kind of servants, rendering the kind of service that glorifies His name. Many are the biblical injunctions that we "pray one for another," "help bear one another's burdens," "visit those who are sick," "helping widows and orphans," and showing our love and respect for "fathers, mothers, and elderly of the faith." When we fulfill these injunctions, we help to bring healing to a corruptible body where a saint of God lives. The power of human healing lies in the hands of God's people.

The practice of these injunctions would relieve many of the things which trouble us today. Many of their physical needs would be supplied. The sadness and loneliness in their hearts would be replaced with joy and assurance that they are loved and not forgotten. The door of the world is open wide, wide indeed for the healing services the church can offer. There are many in our churches and homes who need these healing helps God has placed in our human hands.

How are you interpreting these lines I am writing? I hope you, like myself, are getting a glimpse of the broader *dimension of evangelism*. Evangelism does not end at the altar of acceptance of Christ as Saviour. It is a life lived, witnessing and caring for people. James aptly says at this point, "Any one confessing Christ as Saviour and controls his tongue, visits the fatherless and widows in their time of physical weakness and need, keeping himself identified with Christ at all times, his faith and works are honorable before God" (James 1:26-27). John, the apostle, says, "Brethren who are blessed with an abundance of material resources and has knowledge of the physical needs of other brothers and sisters in the faith and turns his eyes and heart from them, his faith is not honorable before God."

The ministry of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes revolves around this broad dimension of evangelism. God has placed within the hands of Free Will Baptist people and churches the power coupled with opportunity to provide homes and apartments for those who have reached their retirement years without the advantage of their own home. The eleven families presently in our care are enjoying a quality of life that may have not been theirs without this worthy ministry for our retired. Security, comfort, knowing that someone cares, knowing that they are not forgotten are life supports important to everyone—especially our elderly.

Some say that Paul the apostle and James the apostle argue in their books of the Bible around the importance of faith and works in salvation. I don't think so. Their teachings on the subject complement each other. Faith without Christian works is dead—it can't accomplish its purpose. Works without faith is dead—if they are done, they won't glorify God. The two principles united will each accomplish their one purpose. Faith will justify, works will identify who we are before the world. As Free Will Baptists, the measure of care and support we give to the ministries of the Convention (Retirement Homes included) reflects our faith and protects our heritage for succeeding generations.

Well, day has dawned on the outside of my study. Faye has gone to the kitchen to prepare breakfast, and my oldest son Steve is coming in the back door. I am tired of writing. I have not addressed all I planned in this paper. Perhaps another paper will focus upon material prosperity, visions, dreams, oracles, demon possession, exorcism, anointed handkerchiefs, prophets and apostleship.

It is evident that Original Free Will Baptists have a goodly heritage, much that we must hold to for our own sake and the succeeding generation. It is equally evident there are some things that have crept into our preaching, beliefs and practices that should be purged out. The earlier this purging occurs the better for all of us. Jesus warned Israel against the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees. Their hypocrisy was a hindrance to Israel's acceptance of Him as their Messiah (Matthew 16:6-12). Paul rebukes the Corinthian church for suffering some of its members to practice openly immoral acts without disciplinary action. The church should have addressed itself toward correcting or removing their sins from the assembly. (1 Corinthians 5:6) "Don't you know a little leaven will leaven the whole lump?" I guess the way we'd say it today is, "One bad apple in a basket, given enough time, will ruin the remaining apples in the basket." So the purging must begin somewhere. I will let it begin with me today.

I close this paper with this summary statement: "The heritage I have through my denomination and church is precious—precious indeed. I cherish it highly; it is my life. It has given my life a quality and dimension that I dearly treasure. I owe my praise and gratitude to the Lord Jesus for my salvation. I owe my denomination and church my deepest loyalty. For these reasons I will give the best of my best to my Lord to be used through the ministry of His witness here—the Free Will Baptist denomination and its member churches."

THE SOURCE OF ALL GAIN

Proverbs 4:1-9



by the Rev. A. B. Bryan

Each year in various publications we see published the names of one hundred of the so-called wealthiest persons in America. The conclusion is reached by arriving at the individual's total income. Usually their income is listed by billions and millions. The viewpoint of our worth in this age is categorized by dollars and cents. But God defines wealth somewhat differently.

Many of the individuals who are included in one year's ranking are excluded from the next, their wealth having slipped away through a variety of causes. Some who are supposedly rich one year are forced into bankruptcy the next. Strangely, we are told, "Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven" (Proverbs 23:4-5). It is revealed in the Scriptures that God is not opposed to personal monetary wealth. Many biblical characters were "well-to-do." Abraham, Job, Joseph, Solomon and others were viewed among those we would call rich. Wealth as viewed from God's perspective is not limited to currency.

Rich men and women are often miserable. Their bank account and holdings may be ever so large but their souls be impoverished. God defines riches as the ability to experience and enjoy God's bless-

ings. The individual who knows God as Saviour has indescribable wealth, when compared to the rich person who rejects God. Friendship of God, a happy home life, godly wisdom are valuable.

"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." The biblical reference is that God is the source of all gain. "Both riches and honor come from thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all" (1 Chronicles 29:12). Apart from our benevolent God, we miss the beginning of wealth. Labor, planning and wisdom are vital, but God remains the sole source of blessing. The Fountainhead of life, food, health and all other elements of prosperity are the direct result of prosperity. God is the Prime Giver. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17).

God prepared and took the Israelites into the fertile and fruitful fields of Canaan. His specific concern was that they should not forget the Source of their affluence and freedom. "Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day. . . . And thou say in thine

heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day" (Deuteronomy 8:11, 17-18).

God's Word and promise are proof that all wealth flows from God. Our role is to be sensible as faithful stewards. God gives it all and God owns it all. "For every beast of the forest is mine and the cattle upon a thousand hills. Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High" (Psalm 50:10, 14). God has designated us as caretakers of His assets. "And the LORD said, Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing" (Luke 12:42-43). Our spending habits and investments then become extensions of His will. Following the guidelines of Scripture, we can wisely manage God's riches.

Staggering privileges and responsibility belong to the Christian, and staggering mistrust must be accounted for by those who misuse God's trust. What matters is not how much we possess but how we use what we have been trusted with. Being *wealthy* may be rich or poor according to the world's standard. *Rich* is to be aware that God's standard is not measured by dollars and cents. God is the source of all riches, and we are called to the noble task of managing God's gracious gifts. This is God's perspective with our hearts full of wisdom. "Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee, love her and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principle thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding" (Proverbs 4:6-7).

SPIES

If you solved last month's activity, you know that Joshua and Caleb were the only spies who trusted God and believed that He would help the Israelites in any battle with the big men of Canaan. Most of the Israelites did not trust God as much as Joshua and Caleb trusted Him. They wanted to return to Egypt. They said it would be better if they had died in Egypt or right there in the wilderness.

God was angry with the Israelites. He had helped them over and over again but they seemed to have forgotten all He had done for them. They still did not fully trust Him. So God told Moses and Aaron to tell the Israelites that He was going to punish them. He said, "You wished you had died in the wilderness, and that is exactly what is going to happen." Everyone at that time, except Joshua and Caleb, who was twenty years old and older would never be able to enter the Land of Canaan. They would wander from place to place in the wilderness for forty years and would eventually die there.

Why did God choose the number 40 in this case? He told the Israelites they would wander in the wilderness one year for each day that _____. To finish this sentence, solve the following puzzle. In last month's puzzle, A was 1, B was 2, and so on. This month, let's go backwards! Z will be 1, Y will 2, and X will be 3, and so on.

7	19	22	8	11	18	22	8
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8	22	26	9	24	19	22	23
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24	26	13	26	26	13
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A MORE INFORMED PEOPLE

by Janie Jones Sowers

The year was 1982.

After a great deal of study, the price of *The Free Will Baptist* was increased from \$6.50 to \$8.50 a year. Subscribers were given months to take advantage of savings before the price change took effect. Even though subscribers numbered over 3,700, the Free Will Baptist Press was losing money. The oil "shortages" and fluctuations in the costs of gold and silver had played havoc with printing expenses. Photographic film, typesetting supplies and press plates suddenly became more expensive. Mailing costs began to climb faster than normal. The year 1982 was also a traumatic one for the Press financially. Rumors were on the rampage and employees fought for the survival of the institution they so dearly loved.

The year was 1985. Many studies had been made. Financial records had been examined and reexamined. Everyone called for the Press to halt those endeavors which might not be profitable. And *The Free Will Baptist* was examined once more. Since the price increase in 1982, subscriptions had dropped to 3,053. Money was being lost. Surveys were taken. Denominational ministry personnel were consulted. It was clear; there were only four options: (1) Continue printing *The Free Will Baptist*, business as usual, and continue to lose money; (2) increase subscription costs; (3) publish monthly (because of costs); or (4) stop printing *The Free Will Baptist*. The third option was deemed most appropriate.

This decision was not an easy one. Could we print bi-monthly? we wondered. Since mailing costs were so high and it was possible that we might have to start mailing first class instead of second class because of governmental subsidiary phase-outs (which would eliminate cheaper mailing for non-profit organizations), there would be little financial savings. Since weekly publications had been sixteen pages long, we determined it best to make the monthly at least 32 pages. Surveys taken among readers had indicated subscribers preferred articles to such items as a Sunday School lesson or family devotions. So, a new chapter in the life of an always struggling publication began.

The year was 1988. During the State Convention that September, a resolution was made which read as follows:

Resolution #5: Whereas, the State Layman's League, Woman's Auxiliary, and our local churches have numerous

concerns that would be of interest to all of our people, and Whereas, our "Free Will Baptist" paper has become a monthly publication, and

Whereas, those submitting this resolution to the Resolutions Committee are in sympathy with the Press Board and further understand the financial concerns of the Press in its publication of the paper, yet we desire to see a return to the weekly or a bi-weekly format for more news coverage,

Be It Resolved, that the Executive Committee meet with the Press Board in an attempt to work out a solution to having a paper that is available to us on more than a monthly basis.

The resolution passed. The Executive Committee of the State Convention sent representatives to meet with the Press Board. Several discussions took place. The Executive Committee concluded that the Press Board had done all it could; their actions were appropriate. The Executive Committee met with representatives from denominational ministries and discussion ensued on the possibility of one news publication serving for all, that publication being *The Free Will Baptist*. As was already felt by those concerned (from such early conversations), such a move would not meet with approval. Each ministry maintains its own mailing list of supporters. Each ministry promotes its work uniquely and such a move would eliminate a "personal" feeling. All those involved pledged support to *The Free Will Baptist*; all left still united, working toward the furtherment of the Kingdom.

It is now mid-December, 1989. Subscriptions are once again increasing in number. For the most part, people are quite positive. Still there are those who don't seem to understand. At present, the Free Will Baptist Press *donates* (or loses) approximately \$7,000 a year on the cost of *The Free Will Baptist*. Production and labor costs, and mailing expenses continue to increase. We would need at least 1,000 more individual subscribers to just break even. Printing more frequently would call for a far greater increase.

Sure, there are a good number of Free Will Baptist homes where *The Free Will Baptist* does not go. But think about this. For years we have heard that there are 35,000 Original Free Will Baptists. I feel this to be an exaggerated figure. Examining State Convention figures, I believe 15,000-20,000 to be a more realistic figure. (Let's be realistic and consider *active* rolls.) If the average family has four members, that is a possible 3,750-5,000 subscribers. (Yes, we *are* dealing with

(Turn the Page)

averages and opinions.)

Printing more frequently will definitely demand higher subscription rates. Past experience shows this to be detrimental. This effort would be greatly boosted if churches would adopt either the Bundle or Every Family Plan. Those churches which take part in the Bundle Plan have a bundle of at least 25 issues sent to one address for distribution. A savings of 50% of individual subscription rates is realized. Participants in the Every Family Plan receive a 25% discount. Under this program, the Press is supplied with the names and addresses of church members and *The Free Will Baptist* is mailed directly to the individual. The Press bills the church quarterly in both situations.

Located on Page 29 of this issue is information about submitting articles and news items. Number 12 is often a source of debate. Every printing company works with deadlines. We are no exception. After the Editorial Department completes its work on an issue, the darkroom and pressroom work must still be done. Once the issue is stitched and trimmed, it must be labeled and sorted for mailing. All of this takes time. Add to this the fact that we all want it in the reader's hands *before* the first of the month. Every effort is made to accommodate those who submit news items. Such items are received, prepared and printed up to *two days* before the publication goes to the darkroom, which is approximately *one week* before the end of the month! Even though it is not wise, many items are taken on the telephone. Many are the times when *The Free Will Baptist* is held to get something in at the last minute. Those who have submitted late copy, those who have requested extensions, those who have called can attest to our willingness to do everything we can to help. News items are not held unless so directed. Poems, short stories, and the like are used as filler material. News items and information of denominational interest take priority. We cannot, however, print what we have not received. It should be noted that several letters have been sent to pastors encouraging the submission of news items. Appeals have been made at Auxiliary Conventions and other meetings—on both the Conference and State level—for news items. It appears our people want to read about others but they do not want to submit items themselves!

Some feel that we should not reprint articles from other publications. I personally feel it to be an honor when someone contacts me and asks for reprint rights. I also know that I am not an authority on everything. There are many from whom I can learn. The right to reprint items deemed worthy should be seen as a learning privilege for us all. Also, it should be remembered,

everyone is afforded the privilege of writing and submitting articles. Each will be considered. We do not, however, pay for the right to print articles.

Questions have once more resurfaced among our ranks about a single publication. In other words, some think the ministries should cease their individual newsletters and channel both money and items to *The Free Will Baptist*. The denominational ministries would suffer if such a step was taken. Each ministry has its own mode of communication. Some print newsletters six times a year; some only once. Some mail directly to individuals; some send bundles to an individual in each church (often the clerk or pastor) for distribution. (Many never reach the hands of the people.) Fund raisers will tell you the "personal" touch is imperative; it cannot be replaced if an organization plans to survive.

Each year, for example, the Board of Foreign Missions sends out over 175,000 pieces of mail. Each month 1,200 prayergrams are mailed. Four to six times a year (depending on available information), the Board releases 7,200 copies of *Command*. Before March, Foreign Missions Month, each church is sent posters, bulletin covers and inserts about the Month. (That's 100,500 pieces alone, but only about 275 mailed packages!) Thousands of other letters (personal and appeal) are mailed each year alone. And, friend, that's just one ministry. While you consider mailing costs and printing expenses, these items net the needed money to keep this ministry afloat. It is quite probable the Board of Foreign Missions would not make it financially without these mailings. The director can not visit each Original Free Will Baptist; he has never been invited to every church; and without needed funds, the ministry would face program cuts.

There are several things you can do to help us. First, send or have someone in your church to send news items about church happenings. Photographs are welcomed (even color prints). (Polaroid pictures do not reproduce well.) Second, encourage your church to consider participation in The Bundle or Every Family Plan. The Press does not ask for contributions. This is one way your congregation can support the Press' ministry *and* receive something at the same time. Third, if your church does not participate in a subscription plan, make sure your pastor subscribes. Fourth, consider giving *The Free Will Baptist* whenever giving gifts. And last, pray for those of us who work with this vital ministry. We would appreciate it.

Now, let's unite our energies and efforts and seek to advance the cause of Christ. There are souls to be won.

PREPARING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

The staff at the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some tips for making the process easier.

1. Typewrite all copy. Use 8½ x 11 inch paper; smaller paper can get lost or misplaced. Do not strike over letters, and make all erasures as neat as possible. Be sure that the typewriter ribbon gives a clear copy.

2. Keep a copy of all material typed. This will avoid the possibility of having to redo the item in case of loss.

3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches down from the top of page one. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page; and for convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on one side of page only.

4. Leave a margin of at least an inch on both sides of paper.

5. Never write perpendicularly in the margin.

6. Write no more than one article on a sheet.

7. Do not divide a word between pages. Avoid dividing words between lines as much as possible.

8. Clip pages together, using paper clips. Do not staple pages.

9. Read, reread, and correct your own copy before submitting this. This is most important and will expedite matters greatly toward early publication.

10. If words, phrases, or sentences are of particular importance to the point of needing to be emphasized, indicate such by underlining or underscoring.

11. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation, inasmuch as possible.

12. Prepare your articles and reports as early in advance as possible so as not to delay their publication. It should be noted that all articles for publication should be in no later than thirty days in advance. For example, articles for publication in the March issue should be in the hands of the editor by February 1. (When the first is on Sunday, they should be in the hands of the editor on Monday.) It is most important that everyone observe this. Late copy delays the publication and causes problems on all fronts.

13. Remember that all items to be published should be submitted in typed form. Items should not be phoned in.

14. Churches and pastors wishing to announce their availability should note that this information is run as space permits. It should also be noted that there is absolutely no way anyone but the minister himself can relate his availability. (In the past, churches have tried to make such an announcement for their pastors. You can imagine the problems this causes!)

15. It should always be remembered that the editor makes the final decision as to whether or not something is deemed worthy of printing.

16. Send articles to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.



FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Sit down and think for a few minutes about your church. What activities do you think others would like to know about? Use the space below to write about your church and its activities. See Page 29 for preparation details. When writing, remember to relate the who, what, where, and when.



NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman, General Secretary

SPECIAL EVENTS

Camp Vandemere Dinner

As General Secretary of our State Convention, I have been privileged to attend what I call, "special events," during the past few weeks. One of these was a "Kick-Off Dinner" on Friday, November 10, 7 p.m., at King's Restaurant in Kinston, NC. This dinner was sponsored by the Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere for the purpose of honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Sumner in the establishment of an endowment program for their long years of service to the Camp. In attending the dinner, individuals were asked to contribute \$10 or more toward the endowment. About \$2,400 was contributed.

I have known Ralph and Janie since our college days together in the early '50's. No finer Christian servants can be found. Their representation of Christian love, kindness, patience, etc., has always been evident in their lives. Their consistency of personality and character are truly representative of biblical principles. The Eastern Conference, Camp Vandemere, and all that Ralph and Janie have been a part of, have been blessed and strengthened by their sincerity and dedication to our Lord. It is our hope and prayer that this endowment will continue to grow and

thus affect the lives of many others.

Friends of Children Dinner

On Saturday, November 11, Ruby and I attended the Friends of Children Appreciation Day at The Free Will Baptist Children's Home, which was held in the Whitley Center. The dinner is given each year as an expression of appreciation for those who give at least \$20 per month to the Home as "Friends of Children." As always, it was good to visit the Home, and especially on such an occasion.

Meeting with Ministry Directors

On November 20, there was a meeting at the Headquarters with the directors and board chairmen of our various ministries. All of our boards and commissions were represented with the exception of the newly formed Sunday School Board, the Ministers' Program, and Cragmont Assembly. The meeting was chaired by the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the Convention. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways that the office of General Secretary can help to carry out the coordination of the various ministries. An overview of the office of General Secretary was also presented. Other matters discussed included the printing of a poster and pamphlet representing all our ministries, a five-year program

theme for the Convention, and the financial report of the ministries.

Those in attendance felt that it was a very worthwhile meeting, and thus decided that there should be a least two such meetings held each year. One thing is certain, the office of General Secretary cannot function without the unity and cooperation of all our ministries and programs, as well as the support of all our churches.

Founder's Day

On November 21, I was able to attend the Founder's Day Program at Mount Olive College. Previous to the program, I attended the College Board of Directors' meeting. It was my first time to do so. The growth of the College has amazed many of us, and at the present time we realize that the College faces its greatest challenge of expansion and growth.

The Founder's Day Program was excellent, with the singing of the College Chorus and the message by Dr. Billy O. Wireman, president of Queens College. A highlight of the program was the recognition and honor given to Mrs. Lorelle Martin for her outstanding qualities and many years of service and dedication as a former (retired) professor of the College.

Trip to Cragmont

On Thanksgiving afternoon, Ruby and I left for a trip to the mountains and to Cragmont. A trip to our beloved Cragmont set within the beauty of the North Carolina mountains is always a wonderful and blessed experience. The fact that it was rather cold did not take anything away from the trip. In fact, the barrenness and bleakness of the mountains seemed to add to the realization of the majesty of the creative hand of God.

The Cragmont Board of Directors met on Saturday morning. As

(Turn the Page)

is true with all our ministries, Cragmont has needs that can only be met by the faithful support of our people. We have always been proud of our camp which has meant so much to our denomination in the spiritual realm. It is worthy indeed of your support and prayers.

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A REMINDER TO LEAGUES

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at First Church, in Goldsboro, on Saturday, March 10, 1990.

Last year each local League was encouraged to have a project during the year to raise money for the State League Convention expenses which consist of (1) sponsoring a week at Cragmont, (2) operating expenses, (3) printing of minutes in the *Yearbook*, (4) the state project—Cragmont, and (5) awards for Sword Drill winners.

Leagues are thus reminded that if they have not had a money-raising project, there is still time before the convention in March. An example of a project Leagues might sponsor is to have a supper—spaghetti, hot dog, or other—before prayer meeting one week.

At the convention last year, a motion was passed that each church could enter two contestants in the Junior Sword drill (ages 9-11) and two contestants in the Intermediate drill (ages 12-15). It is not too late for contestants to make preparation to enter the contests. Copies of the drills for study may be obtained from Mrs. Margaret Ard, Route 1, Box 155, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

HOW RICH ARE WE?

I have been rereading the record of the rich man and his obviously wrong choice. But it has set me to thinking.

No matter how much wealth he had, he could not—
ride in a car,

have surgery,
turn on a light,
buy penicillin,
wash dishes in running water,
fly in an airplane,

sleep on an innerspring mattress,
or talk on the phone.
Dear Lord, if he was rich, then
what am I?

MAILINGS REQUEST

Our denominational ministries prepare many mailings throughout the year. If you are not receiving newsletters from the ministries and would like to, fill out the form below. Send it to the following address: Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513. We will pass on all mailing requests we receive.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Church _____

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

February, 1990

Divinity Library
Duke University
Durham, NC 27706

*The fear of
the LORD
is the
beginning
of knowledge
(Proverbs 1:7).*



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Notes and Quotes

13

What Is the Original Free Will Baptist Church?

14

My Personal Beliefs

15

The Lesson of Tithing

22

Not So Trivial (Sunday School) Pursuit

24

Substance Abuse Education

25

Satanism and Troubled Kids

26

Children's Corner

27

A Cure for the Common Scold

28

Louder Than Lyrics

30



February 1990

Vol. 105

No. 2

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors: Darrell Horne, President; Carroll Hawkins, Vice President; Gaye Renfrow, Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Assistant Secretary; Carlee Stallard, Jack Thompson, W. S. Burns, Gary Burbage, Leon Harris; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

A SPECIAL DAY AT FIRST CHURCH, WILLIAMSTON

From left to right: Harry Rogerson, trustee and deacon; Robert Perry, deacon; Jimmy Taylor, deacon; Billy Edmondson, chairman of deacons; James Corbett, pastor; Jessie Lilley, deacon; Joe Boyette, trustee; Bobby Todd, trustee.

by the Rev. James Corbett

Sunday, December 31, 1989, was a very special day for the members of First Church, Williamston. We celebrated our victory and worshiped our Lord by having a Mortgage Burning Service. It meant the end of our indebtedness, which was a long awaited victory.

The church began June 26, 1952, with the Rev. Roland Cherry as the pastor. The members had many hopes and dreams. A small white frame building was the first church.

Today, through the careful planning and hard work of the church members, we have a beautiful brick church, Sunday School department, and a fellowship building, with the first structure incorporated into the remodeling process.

The decision was made in 1979 to borrow \$50,000 from the Church Finance Association to remodel the church. The hopes and dreams of what could be kept everyone working the long exhausting hours in the evenings and weekends till it was complete.

The Revs. Curtis Jones and Ronnie Mohn pastored during

these years of the construction and led the church in repaying the loan to the Church Finance Association. The Rev. James Corbett became pastor in April of 1988. A shelter was added to the fellowship building during the summer of 1988.

Our first service for the year of 1989 was an inspiring challenge; and a goal was set for the year: to be debt free by December 31, 1989. We accepted the challenge and worked hard to meet the goal. During the year, through our monthly payments and special projects, we raised around \$14,000 to finish our indebtedness and it was a very special day for us.

We thank the Lord for making it possible and all the members for believing and holding onto their dreams.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet on Saturday, February 3, at Lee's Chapel Church. The district Talent Competition will take place at this meeting. Because of the competition, the meeting will begin at 6 p.m.

The March meeting is scheduled for the third at Faith Church.

All youth, sponsors and interested individuals are encouraged to attend.

GINNIE MAE AUXILIARY REACHES \$5,000 GOAL TO BUILD INDIA MISSION SCHOOL

by the Rev. Dale Weaver

October, 1989, was the goal set by the Ginnie Mae Auxiliary, of Mount Tabor Church, Creswell, when they set out two years ago to raise \$5,000 to build a mission school in India.

The inspiration to raise the funds for the school came in the May 14, 1987, State Woman's Auxiliary Convention held in Dunn, North Carolina. Members of the Auxiliary were inspired by the report of the missions representative when he spoke of the many needs on both the home and foreign fields of service.

"The idea that just \$5,000 could build a school . . . somehow appealed to us," said Virginia Haire, current president of the Ginnie Mae Auxiliary.

At the next meeting, the members of the Auxiliary discussed the idea of raising the funds for the school. They felt that it was certainly possible to raise the funds, but decided to make it a matter of group and individual prayer.

"At the September meeting, we felt led of the Lord to take this as a missions project, and we felt we could probably accomplish this in two years," said Mrs. Haire.

Indeed, the rest is now history! The goal was met in October, and was capped by a November Chicken and Pastry Supper.

"Looking back," said Mrs. Haire, "it seems so easy. We knew in the beginning that God was leading our decision—and He led us all the way!"

The Ginnie Mae Auxiliary acknowledges that it was God's

(Turn the Page)

guidance and grace that enabled them to successfully complete the project—for that reason, He gets all the glory!

Harold Jones, director of the Board of Foreign Missions, who had just returned from India, sent a letter of acknowledgement to the Auxiliary thanking them for their work and unselfish giving to reach souls with the gospel.

The Auxiliary wishes to express their deep appreciation to all who gave time and money to make this project a success. They also ask that everyone continue to pray that this gift will be used to win souls and lives for Christ and His kingdom!

SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen

The senior citizen honored by the Adult Sunday School Class of Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, for the month of December was Mrs. Beulah Haddock. Mrs. Haddock married Ivory Lee Haddock at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Bowen in 1982. They made a fine couple and have proved to be such a lovely couple in Pleasant Hill Church. Beulah moved her membership to Pleasant Hill shortly thereafter.

She accepted Christ and became a member of the First Baptist Church in Ayden in 1942. Ivory Lee, her husband, has been honored as a senior citizen earlier. Beulah is a faithful member and takes part in everything the church does. She is always present with a lovely smile and welcome for everyone. She is the newest member of the choir. Mrs. Haddock has two sons, Clarence E. Mills and Dennis (Dink) Mills; one daughter, Mrs. Linda Nichols; and six grandchildren. Pleasant Hill acquired two valuable members when the Haddocks came to our church.

On Sunday morning, December 31, the class honored her with a lovely coffee hour to which the entire Sunday School was invited.



Mrs. Beulah Haddock

She was presented a very nice rose bouquet. They request your prayers.

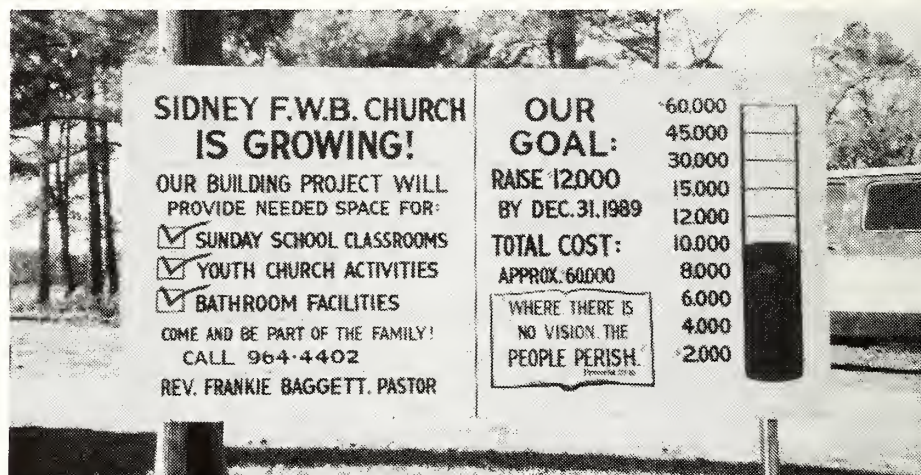
SIDNEY HONORS EDWARD CLAYTON



Edward Clayton

Edward Clayton has served as secretary/treasurer of the Sunday School program at Sidney

CHURCH LAUNCHES BUILDING PROGRAM



Sidney Church, Albemarle Conference, is starting a \$60,000 building project that will make room for new Sunday School classrooms, enlarge space for youth church activities, and provide additional bathroom facilities.

The church has seen the Lord add to the enrollment of Sunday School, youth church, and morning worship services, and the members have found themselves needing to expand. The building project will connect the fellowship hall to the existing sanctuary and classroom building.

A goal to raise \$12,000 by December 31, 1989, was adopted last summer. The church not only met the goal but exceeded it by \$2,000. The money generated will serve as a substantial down payment. Construction is expected to be completed by the summer of 1990, in time to dedicate the building as the church celebrates its 100th anniversary on August 26.

The church is pastored by the Rev. Franklin Baggett. Mr. Baggett and his wife Debra are expecting their first child this spring. Truly, the Lord is blessing at Sidney!

Church for over 26 years. Recently he decided to "let someone else take it for a while." In so doing, the Sunday School recognized Edward during the Sunday School hour by giving him a plaque and gift certificate. Although Edward will no longer serve as secretary/treasurer of the Sunday School, he will still maintain an active role in church work. He presently serves as chairman of the deacon board, president of the Layman's League, and works on various committees and projects.

Edward is a farmer and he and his wife Pauline have two children and two grandchildren.

Sidney Church is pastored by the Rev. Frankie Baggett. Gary Burbage serves as Sunday School superintendent.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Buddy Sasser is available for revivals and supply work. Interested congregations can reach him at 2216 Ridge Road, New Bern, NC 28560; or by phoning him at 636-0444 (work) or 638-9012 (residence).

NOTICE

Brother Danny Braswell is no longer a Free Will Baptist minister. Therefore, we recommend him to no one or church.

Sincerely,
Ed Miles, Clerk
Cape Fear Ordaining Council

THANK YOU

I wish to thank all the churches, Sunday Schools, and Woman's Auxiliaries in North Carolina and Georgia for all the beautiful cards, gifts, and prayers during the Christmas season. Please know that I love you and remember you are in my prayers.

Mrs. E. C. Morris
1912 Taylor Street
Durham, North Carolina 27703

FIRST CHURCH OF GOLDSBORO ADOPTS THEME: "YEAR OF COMMITMENT" FOR 1990!

First Church, Goldsboro, adopted the theme "Year of Commitment" for 1990 during its first worship service, January 7, 1990.

A 32-foot banner, made by Paul Howell Jr., was erected and hung in the cathedral ceiling of the church with the words "Year of Commitment" 1990, *Proverbs 16:3*, inscribed on it.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. Norman Ard, presented salvation, hope, and prosperity to his parishioners as he proclaimed God's Word. He reminded the congregation of the goodness of the Lord to them as a church family.

Goldsboro Church has just completed a building program where they now have a new educational building and fellowship hall. Both buildings have a value of 1/2 million dollars. Even with this added expense, the church operates with nearly a \$100,000 a year budget.

The pastor urged the congregation to become a "people church." He brought out that the church has one of the nicest facilities to "seek the lost," "admonish the erring," and to "worship the Lord."

He invited the parishioners to "commit" themselves to attending the house of the Lord during its worship services, Auxiliary meetings, Layman's League meetings and prayer meetings. He shared with the congregation the importance of working together in "unity" and using their talents for the Lord.

As the invitation was given, 20-30 people from the congregation responded, "committing" themselves to the Lord. First Church, Goldsboro, will never be the same as it was before, as it starts a new work for the Lord, going into a new decade!

MOC FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP AND CAMPUS VISITATION DAY FEBRUARY 10

Christian Education Month is an appropriate time to arrange a visit to Mount Olive College. The College has scheduled a campus visitation day and financial aid workshop for Saturday, February 10. Activities begin at 12:45 p.m., with workshop registration in the Henderson Building. At 2:30 p.m., registration for campus visitation will begin in College Hall.

The financial aid workshop is designed to explain the financial aid process to students and their parents. The various types of aid available (federal and state programs), the Financial Aid Form, the procedure of determining financial need and the complete financial aid package are among the topics that will be discussed.

CAMPUS VISITATION

Campus visitation days give prospective students and their parents an opportunity to talk with students and faculty about college and academic life. A special feature of this visitation day, will be a panel discussion involving college students. The students will give their perspective on life at Mount Olive College and will also field questions from campus visitors.

A sandwich buffet dinner at 5 p.m. and two basketball games (women's at 5:30 p.m. and men's at 7:30 p.m.) will conclude the day's activities.

Persons interested in attending campus visitation day or the financial aid workshop, should write or call the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502; for more information. Campus visits may be arranged anytime, just contact the Admissions Office to schedule an appointment. Regular office hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

(Turn the Page)

and by appointment in the evenings and on weekends.

1980's DECADE OF ADVANCEMENT FOR MOC AND FREE WILL BAPTISTS

A 1979 decision by the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, propelled the College into a new decade with the goal of attaining four-year status. In May 1986, fifty students were granted Mount Olive College's first baccalaureate degrees and in December, MOC attained accreditation as a four-year institution from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Free Will Baptist Church supported this same College in 1953, with \$6.17 in its educational fund. During the 1980's, the Free Will Baptist churches of eastern North Carolina contributed \$2,030,367 to the College through the annual gift support dinners. Free Will Baptists have also contributed to the College through the Library Patron program and by establishing endowments. Support such as this has enabled the College to offer tuition grants of \$1500 to qualified Free Will Baptist students and to advance the four-year program.

The development of the four-year program has meant expanded service to meet the needs of the Free Will Baptist Church. Since opening in 1984, College Hall, an athletic/physical education/convention center, has provided a meeting place for the State Convention and the State Youth Convention. Two majors, church ministries and religion, have been designed for all students preparing for the ministry. The Education for Christian Ministries program, directed by Dr. K. David Hines, has been implemented to further educational programs for ministers and church workers.

Mount Olive College has entered the 1990's prepared for

future growth in all areas of the College. A \$10 million "Road to Excellence" development campaign now underway at the College will provide funds for educational services such as scholarships, and instructional and student development.

Construction of a student services building is also part of the campaign. The new building will provide accommodations for food services, health services, student activities, counseling services, the College bookstore, campus mail services, indoor recreation, the music department, a 300-seat auditorium and business, admissions and financial aid offices. The completion of this building will transfer all operations to the College's main campus on U.S. 117 bypass.

Mount Olive College has a mission to prepare students for life as well as for a career. The College stands on the threshold of a new

century with a commitment to achieve a level of educational excellence unsurpassed by any college of its size. It is dedicated to serving both its sponsoring church and the public.

PROJECT EAST: A PREMIERE CONFERENCE AT MOC

Project EAST is an idea for the 1990's that identifies Mount Olive College as the regional center for progressive action in eastern North Carolina. EAST signifies the objectives: Education, Achievement, Service and Technology. A series of ten annual conferences will focus on the people, the places, the prospects and the progress of eastern North Carolina.

The premiere conference of Project EAST, scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 1990, will be called "Eastern North Carolina's Profile: Traditions and Trends in Education and

(Continued on Page 32)

FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS NAMED TO PRESIDENT'S LIST AND DEAN'S LIST

Mount Olive College has published its fall 1989 President's List and Dean's List to honor students who attain high scholastic standing. To qualify for the list at the completion of each semester, students must be attending on a full-time basis and have achieved a grade point average of 4.0 (all "A's") for the President's List or a grade point average of 3.5 for the Dean's List. The student must have no grade below a "C" in any subject for the semester.

The following are Free Will Baptist students named to the two lists.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Name	Church (County)
Stephanie Green	Pine Level (Johnston)
Jeffrey Grubbs	Hull Road (Greene)
Sallie Hallisey	Memorial (Beaufort)
Sherrie Martin	Shady Grove (Sampson)
Jeannie Pittman	Harmony (Wilson)
Melissa Price	Sarecta (Duplin)
Sylvia Suggs	Macedonia (Columbus)
Tina Wetherington	Moseley's Creek (Craven)

DEAN'S LIST

Amy Bunn	Daniel's Chapel (Wilson)
Wendy Lamm Taylor	Rock Springs (Nash)
Christine Maguire	Pilgrim's Home (Jones)
Shannon Moore	Pleasant Hill (Wayne)
Lenwood Smith II	St. Mary's (Craven)
Michelle Taylor	White Oak Grove (Lenoir)
Todd Tinker	Free Union (Beaufort)
Sherry Toler	New Haven (Craven)
Michael Williams	Daly's Chapel (Wayne)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

A NEW FOCUS FOR GENESIS MISSION



Since the beginning of Genesis Mission more than two years ago, the Mission has undergone significant changes: New leadership, new personnel, new ideas. The transition has provided the opportunity to refine and refocus the direction of our endeavor. The increase of home developments has confirmed and intensified the conviction that a fellowship building is a must for reaching the unchurched in the area.

THE URGENT NEED for more space is demonstrated in the old dwelling house we are presently using. The Bible School overflow, small worship area, limited restroom facilities and very small class rooms, are not adequate to grow a church and "TOUCH LIVES FOR A LIFETIME."

We believe Genesis Mission is truly an extension of the ministry of every Original Free Will Baptist Church, therefore, we are asking every member to remember our mission in your prayers as we move forward with a determined effort to build a new fellowship building.

Funds for drying-in the building have been contributed, with completions to come only as new

resources are available. Along with the help of laypersons from the Cape Fear Conference Churches, plans are to construct this 28' x 60' building in a single day, February 10.

With the cooperation of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism and the congregation of the Genesis Mission, our vision is in focus to accomplish this project.

On October 29, 1989, a ground-breaking ceremony was held with approximately 40 in attendance. Trustees David Long and Roscoe Blackwell turned the first shovel of dirt, followed by the Director/Pastor Al Markuson, a representative of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, the Rev. Dean Kennedy; and members of the Mission.

With divine guidance and direction, we at Genesis will **make a difference** in the lives of others as we move forward in focus with Christ.



CHANGE IN THE SUMMER WOMEN'S CONFERENCE — AT CRAGMONT

Beginning with the 1990 summer camping season at Cragmont, the women's conference will meet for one of its weeks in June and for the second week in August. The dates for 1990 will be:

June 11-16—June Women's Conference

August 6-11—August Women's Conference

(There will **not** be a second week of Woman's Conference in August.)

Decide now what week you would like to attend, or maybe you can plan to attend both weeks.

Registrar: Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

Deposit of \$10 should accompany registration.

During both weeks, we tentatively plan to travel to Pigeon Forge, TN, to visit the outlets and to attend the dinner theater, Dixie Stampede.

YOUTH WORK IN MEXICO



by Antonio Escobar

We have proposed in our churches here in Mexico to make use of the strength of her youth. We know that it will not be an easy task, but we are much in prayer as we initiate an evangelism program for youth. Some of the young people have made promises to serve the Lord. One of the courses that we shall be using is the Evangelism Explosion Program. We expect to gather a large group of young people using this program and to prepare them for this ministry of evangelism.

There is a great interest in our youth and this encourages us to work in this department. We must pray for the youth of our churches.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE



In the December issue of *Command* and the January issue of *The Free Will Baptist*, you read about the tremendous gift of a church building in India. Your response toward renovation has been great. Below is a list of the progress:

- ✓ Electrification and fans, etc.—\$3,125
- ✓ Replacing of doors and windows—\$2,400
- Renovation of the building—\$12,500
- ✓ Installation of pipe lines and renovation of toilet—\$625
- ✓ Repairs and caning of benches—\$1,250
- Supply of altar, altar chairs and ten more benches—\$2,650
- Boundary wall with two big gates and repair of the road—\$19,900

The two motorcycles for India have also been supplied. A complete list of contributions will be in the next *Command*.

God bless you with the riches of His grace as you continue in His service.

Harold Jones, *Director*
Board of Foreign Missions



The young girl who holds the microphone is studying piano with the idea of bettering the music within our churches.

A REMINDER TO LEAGUES

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at First Church, in Goldsboro, on Saturday, March 10, 1990.

Last year each local League was encouraged to have a project during the year to raise money for the State League Convention expenses which consist of (1) sponsoring a week at Cragmont, (2) operating expenses, (3) printing of minutes in the *Yearbook*, (4) the state project—Cragmont, and (5) awards for Sword Drill winners.

Leagues are thus reminded that if they have not had a money-raising project, there is still time before the convention in March. An example of a project Leagues might sponsor is to have a supper—spaghetti, hot dog, or other—before prayer meeting one week.

At the convention last year, a motion was passed that each church could enter two contestants in the Junior Sword drill (ages 9-11) and two contestants in the Intermediate drill (ages 12-15). It is not too late for contestants to make preparation to enter the contests. Copies of the drills for study may be obtained from Mrs. Margaret Ard, Route 1, Box 155, Pink Hill, NC 28572.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



MARCH IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

Foreign Missions Telethon Sunday Will Be

March 25, 1990

THEME:

PEOPLE NEED THE LORD

Telethon Goal 1990: A total of \$80,000 + in gifts on that Sunday. This can easily be reached if every church and individual will give the highest amount you have given to the Telethon in the past two years.

Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Dial: 919-746-4963 or 746-6128.

YOUR CALL IS VITALLY IMPORTANT.

Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions

March 25, 1990

REVIVAL COMES FROM HEART DESIRE TRANSLATED INTO
FERVENT PRAYER.

REVIVAL LEADS TO COMPASSION FOR LOST
PEOPLE AND INCREASED EFFORT IN WORLD MISSIONS.

PRAYER GOAL 1990: All churches joining together in united prayer for revival and world missions during the Morning Worship Hour on March 25, 1990.

OUR PRAYER LIFE IS THE MIRROR
OF OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE.

LET'S MAKE THE 1990's
THE DECADE OF REVIVAL.

BOARD OF
FOREIGN MISSIONS

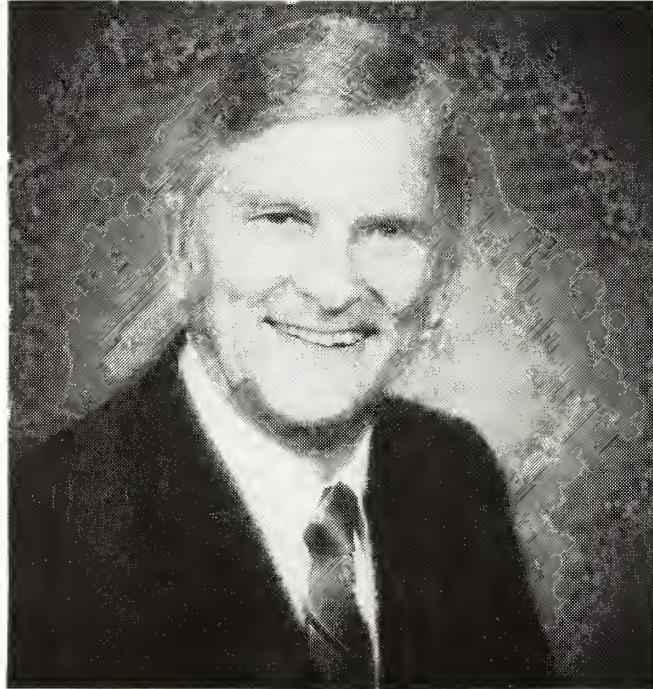


P.O. Box 39
Ayden, N.C. 28513-0039
Phone: 919-746-4963



ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by Board of Foreign Missions



Bill Harding, Speaker

Date: March 16, 1990

Place: Stoney Creek FWB Church, Wayne County

Time: 3:00 P.M. Opening Session

4:00 P.M. Second Session

5:00-7:30 Meal Break (Pastors' Banquet)

7:30 P.M. Mission Rally

This will be an exciting conference. There will be special music in each session. Mark your calendar now and make plans to attend.

Bill serves as minister-at-large for SIM-U.S.A. He served as a missionary to Ethiopia for twelve years in urban and rural ministries.

Rev. Harding is a native of Charlotte, NC. He attended the Citadel and was graduated from Columbia Bible College. He did further studies at Wheaton Graduate School. Bill and his wife, Elaine, are parents of five children.

Bill is a frequent speaker on college and seminary campuses as well as mission conferences across America.

You will surely be blessed for attending.



Shown above are members of Good News Church, in Rockingham, who visited the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Saturday, December 2, 1989. Following a tour of the campus they presented a check in the amount of \$200 to the Children's Home.



Jeanette Lefler

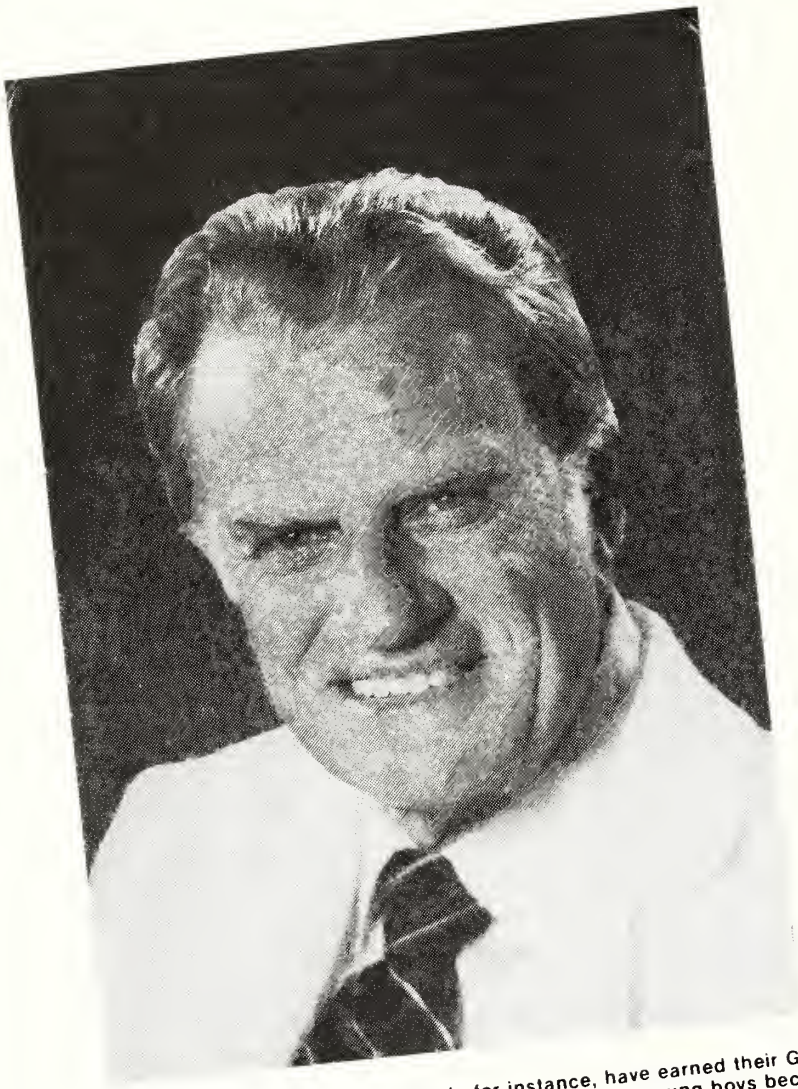
Shown are members of Folkstone Church surrounding items they brought with them to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Saturday, November 18, 1989. They chose items from the "Needs, Wants List" found on page 2 in each *Children's Home Life*, the newsletter of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Following a tour of the campus, Mrs. Jeanette Lefler presented a check in the amount of \$361.50 from the Folkstone Woman's Auxiliary to Jeff Daughtry, director of church and public relations, to be used for Christmas gifts for our children.



**Available Now
For Baptist Church
Leaders In Your Community**

Here's a stirring message of faith and a dramatic call for scouting. *A Bridge to Faith*, keyed by world renowned evangelist Billy Graham, is an 18-minute videotaped program about Matt, a new Boy Scout, who is "lost" then found by the boys in his troop on a hike in the woods. We learn that Matt is "lost" spiritually as well as physically and scouting becomes his way into active membership in his church.

Designed for use with local Baptist groups, *A Bridge to Faith* carries the testimonies of nine outstanding Baptist leaders from across America. It can be a powerful tool for your staff to use in spreading the scouting movement to all Baptist churches in your council. This videotape format can be used in the church office or at home—use it to make a case for scouting in your community now!

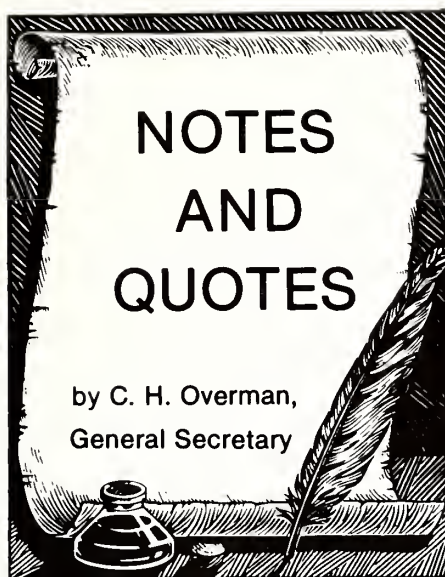


"A BRIDGE TO FAITH"

**Available through the:
Convention Scouting Commission
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513**

"More than six thousand Baptist youth, for instance, have earned their God and Country emblem. And of those, more than one thousand young boys became Christians while they were working on this program . . . Scouting is one way of bringing young boys and their families into the church."

Dr. Billy Graham



NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman,
General Secretary

THE PIEDMONT UNION

On Saturday, December 30, I, along with Brothers David C. Hansley and Walter Sutton, attended the Piedmont Union Meeting which met at Sweet Haven Church in Rockingham. We met for about forty-five minutes with the ministers in the Union. This gave us the opportunity to present the work and program of our Convention. We enjoyed the fellowship of this Union and we are deeply grateful for the reception afforded us and the response from the ministers there. The Rev. M. E. Cox is the moderator and arranged the meeting for us. Our special thanks to Brother Cox.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

On January 2, I met with the newly organized Sunday School Board of the State Convention. The Board met at Pine Level Church. The chairman of the Board is the Rev. Philip Boykin. With his energy and youth, as well as his interest in this work, we feel that the Sunday School work will take on new dimensions.

Having served for several years on the Sunday School Convention Executive Committee, I am aware of the important place that the Sunday Schools play in our church. A great deal of the discussion in this meeting was focused

on the upcoming Sunday School Institute, to be held on March 3. From what we observed, our people can expect an excellent institute with a good opportunity for Sunday School workers to become better workers.

The work and success of this Board is an essential part of our denominational program; however, as is true regarding all other phases of our work, the support and prayers of all our churches is absolutely essential if the Sunday School Board is to continue to carry out its programs, and especially if the work of Field Secretary is to continue. In other words, each Sunday School must give at least \$25 per quarter to sufficiently support this work. Is your Sunday School fulfilling its responsibility?

PASTORAL LIAISON

As previously stated on this page, one specific responsibility of the General Secretary is to act as a pastoral liaison with the ministers of the Convention. The response to this area of service has been favorable with churches and ministers informing us about changes and availability. I have found, however, that sometimes a minister out on the field will know about changes that I am not aware of. It is my hope that in such instances I will also be informed and that together we can

unify our efforts for the support of all.

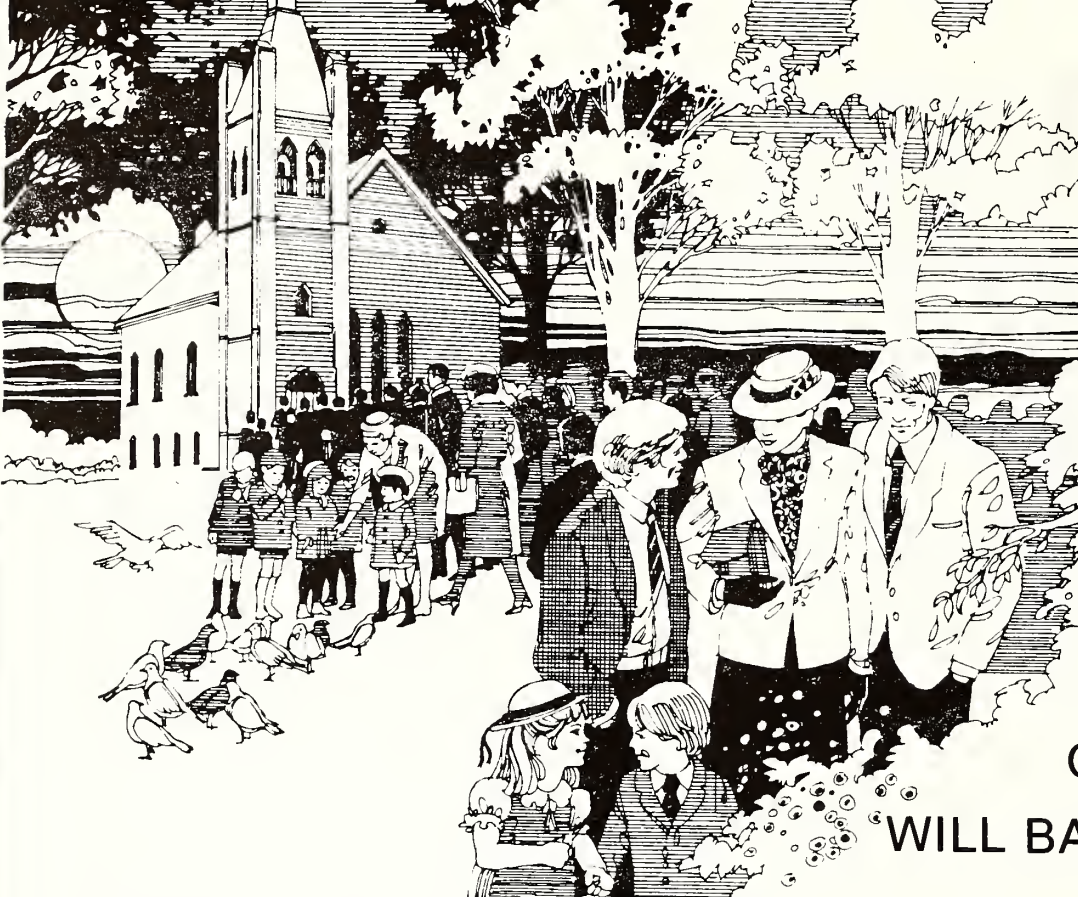
Since I have been in this office, several ministers have expressed the conviction that there is a definite need for churches to improve their method of searching for and securing a pastor. If any church pastoral committee, therefore, needs information regarding suggested guidelines, please contact this office. I will send a copy of such guidelines to you.

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

On December 19, 1989, our ministers were invited to our Headquarters for a time of fellowship and refreshments in observance of our Saviour's birth. This was the first time for such a gathering. The idea was to meet with the directors of our ministries in a time of relaxed fellowship. The hours were from 2-4 p.m. There developed, however, one major obstacle—the weather. It turned out to be a day of sleet and freezing rain and those living some distance were afraid to risk the drive. Although the number was small (about 30 ministers and their wives), it proved to be just what we wanted—a time for fellowship and sharing. We plan to do this again next year and at an earlier December date.



Pictured is the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the State Convention, as he helps himself to the refreshments here at the Headquarters on December 19. Also pictured is Mrs. Ruby Overman, center, and Mrs. Harold Jones, both helping to serve.



WHAT IS THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH?

Perhaps you have read the articles in this publication and you are not familiar with the Original Free Will Baptist Church. You may be wondering what this group of nearly 300 North Carolina churches stands for and believes. (In addition to the churches in North Carolina, our Home Missions and Evangelism, and Foreign Missions Boards have begun work in Florida, California, Mexico, India and the Philippines.)

WE BELIEVE:

1. That there is only one God who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the Universe; that His eternal existence is in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that all three are equal, but distinct persons. They are the divine Trinity.

2. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God; that He was born of the Virgin Mary; that He died for man's redemption; that He ascended to Heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as our intercessor.

3. That both the Scriptures of the Old and new Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the infallible rule of faith and practice.

4. That man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into

a state of sin and condemnation and stands guilty before God and separate from Him.

5. That it is the privilege of all men to be saved; that God desires the salvation of all; that the gospel invites everyone; that the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

6. That the human will is free and self-controlled; that it is possible for a person who has been saved by divine grace to make shipwreck of his faith and become lost. The person (believer) who through grace perseveres unto the end of life has promise of eternal salvation.

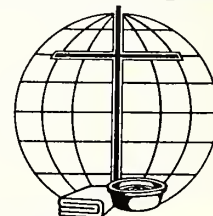
7. That sanctification is initial at regeneration and continues progressively through the Christian experience, becoming final and complete in Heaven.

8. That there are three gospel ordinances to be perpetuated

under the gospel teaching: baptism by immersion, the Lord's Supper, and washing of the saints' feet.

9. That tithing is God's financial plan for supporting the work of the church here on earth.

10. That our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again; that there will be a resurrection of all men at the last day; that they which are saved will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they which are lost unto the resurrection of damnation; that the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." This is the final judgment.



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MY PERSONAL BELIEFS

WITH RELATION TO THE BIBLE AND OUR ARTICLES OF FAITH AND PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT

by the Rev. Walter Sutton

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, the abuse of drugs, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and public worship and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to give according to our ability for the support of the church and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles and obligations supreme, esteem it our chief business to make Christ known to the world, and constantly pray and toil that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to co-operate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, the support of the work of the local church, and the evangelization of the world.

May the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many, many times in the course of conversation with Christian brethren and preaching to Original Free Will Baptists over the past thirty years or more, I have said firmly, "The Bible is our rule for faith and practice." To my knowledge, no one has ever challenged the truth of that statement. The Bible teaches us Jesus is the object of faith for salvation. It teaches us how to live.

There are many people whom I know that have never learned how to live. The only life they know is in conflict with the law, overuse of alcohol, drugs, and pleasure centered in the gratification of the flesh. They have not yet learned that sin is a "hard master." How sad it is that many will live

and die never knowing the high quality of life that could have been theirs in Christ. These people for whom Christ died need our *prayers*, even more they need our *attention* and *witness*.

With equal force I have said, *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government* is our rule for corporate belief and promotion of the gospel of Christ." To my knowledge no one has ever challenged the truth of that statement either. I think sometime to myself, how sad it is that some pay so little attention to what they say. Many of the ills that hurt us in the past might have passed us by untouched, if we had had a little better understanding of this document.

A thoughtless person might say, "Well, I don't pay any attention to it, it's 'man-made.'" How foolish to act in such a way. Most everything we own and use is "man-made." Every Bible I've ever seen was "man-made" but its contents is God's wonderful message to us. Ought we not to pay attention to what it says? Indeed we should. The believer who reads his Bible and practices it will be wise, wiser than the average man. The Free Will Baptist member, be he layman or clergy, who gives attention to his *Articles of Faith and Principles for Church Government* will always stand head and shoulders above his colleagues. That's an honor worthy of recognition at any level of our denominational structure.

I have a strange belief. I don't know that I've ever heard anyone make a statement that would come close to my next line. "The Bible and our *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Covenant* are so interwoven in one grand theological fabric that they are inseparable. To tear one is to tear the other." I have yet to meet the person who can with scriptural integrity disprove one of its least (if there be one) important articles.

The theological beliefs that I hold dear to my heart are not mine. Jesus gave them to me by illuminating my mind while reading and studying the Bible. My understanding of church government and conduct has come through continued reading of the *Articles of Faith* and through observation of experienced Free Will Baptist ministers in the Eastern Conference who knew how to practice them to the letter. A perfectly balanced Free Will Baptist believer is one who carries his Bible in one hand and his *Articles of Faith and Principles for Church Government* in his other hand, knowing how to correctly use both.

It is evident the Bible should be the governing factor for personal and church doctrinal statements. Any belief or practice not supported by *sound seasonal* Scripture is like chaff and should without hesitation be cast to the wind. Beliefs without sound biblical basis are danger zones into which one may enter when Scripture is misinterpreted or misapplied. Deception is the hurt and often unretrievable result. Our world is filled with many beliefs, some false, some good and sound. Both have a long and complex history. The believer who sets himself to the task of acquiring a working knowledge of this history will undoubtedly become weary long before it is completed. The days, yea months, even years, and books read will be numerous. The knowledge that comes from such a quest will be the grand reward.

Knowledge is power. Biblical knowledge is even more powerful. Those who desire it, desire a

noble human achievement. It is like silver that brings wealth to the one who possesses it. It is like water to a thirsty soul. It is the enemy of ignorance. It will humble the man who possesses it and create a reverence for God, the Fountainhead of all truth. How can we find and possess biblical knowledge? The writer of Proverbs addresses the human side of this question. Here are his directions (it is as though God is speaking to any believer as he reads these lines): "My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding. If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hidden treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God" (Proverbs 2:1-5).

A working knowledge of the Bible does not come easy to any believer. The categorical order here is knowledge comes only after (1) thirst, (2) prayer, (3) searching, and (4) finding. Believers who are equipped with this technology are prepared to be led by the Holy Spirit into the dark and complex areas of theology and the right way of believing and serving God.

We must not overlook the divine side of the impartation of knowledge. Paul addresses this question in 1 Corinthians 2:1-16. His primary purpose is to explain how the Scriptures dwelling in the mind of God were transmitted into the mind of those who recorded them. Verses 9-12, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." So, the first point in this transmission process is *revelation*. The Scripture in the mind of God would never be known by man except by direct revelation from God. A Bible containing all the knowledge of God showing man the way of salvation would never, could never, be thought of by man. The Bible is the work of God in revelation. Notice verse 13, "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual." The truth of God was revealed to chosen men who were guided in their choice of words as they recorded.

Inspiration has to do only with the recording of the truth. The Spirit-taught words conveyed the precise truth. Inspiration assures us that the contents in the Bible tell the truth about whatever subject is being discussed. Note verse 14, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." When we read the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit *illuminates* our minds, lights up the words we read and understanding enters our thinking. So, illumination brings the believer to the right understanding of the Scriptures as he reads them. Upon understanding the Scripture written in Spirit-taught words, they are welcomed because the message is discerned or understood.



Interpretation of Scripture comes by knowing how to compare spiritual things with spiritual things. The spiritual technology possessed by the believer teaches him to judge the "right something" with the "right something," to "match the right color with the right color." It is of utmost importance that we correlate things that agree, but is equally essential to distinguish between things that differ.

Isaiah 28:10, "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little." This is the order of instruction which will enable the most immature believer to obtain knowledge and understand doctrine. However, we must also learn in our study rightly to divide the word of truth. That was Paul's advice to Timothy. "Study to

show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). Any application of Scripture applied to any person or present condition should be in direct harmony with the interpretation of the text under scrutiny. So, the divine process of impartation of knowledge comes by *revelation, inspiration, illumination, interpretation, and application*. Believers in whom this process is perfected become "lights" shining in a dark world. Their life "lights" up the teachings of Christ. They believe right and lead others how to believe right and live right.

The Bible was written over a period of about sixteen hundred years. Holy men representing many walks of life recorded the truth as it was revealed to them by God. The New Testament books were written during the last fifty years of the first century A.D. They were canonized in 397 A.D. at Carthage. The Bible containing both Old and New Testament books gives credibility to one religion and one gospel, Judaism and the gospel of Christ respectively.

The genesis of Judaism centers in Abraham, the third son of Terah. This heathen family was living in Ur of the Chaldees. Abraham was born in the year 2008 A.M. (in the year of man). His father died when he was seventy-five years old in the year 2083 A.M. Upon the death of his father, God spoke to him (Genesis 12:1-4). God directed Abraham out of Ur to the Land of Canaan, which would become the perpetual homeland of his descendants. This unconditional covenant entered into by Jehovah with Abraham was renewed many times with some important additions for the succeeding patriarchs of this nation of people.

The points of Judaism which flowered out in beautiful fashion at the direction of Moses are to be considered at this point: (1) An everlasting nation, an everlasting homeland, an everlasting throne, an everlasting king, and an everlasting kingdom; (2) the Law of Moses; (3) the Messianic hope; (4) the theocracy; and (5) the physical mark of circumcision. For 215 years, the nation in Egypt grew in such numbers, that the Egyptians were prompted to enact great hardships upon the Jews. Upon Moses being called and commissioned by Jehovah, he organized these people and led them from bondage to freedom. His work of organizing this nation, giving them their laws of worship, government and social relationship stands today before Israel and the nations of the world as a monument of deliverance from the hardship of slavery to freedom and democracy. Moving with haste through Jewish history, David centered Israel's government in Jerusalem. Solomon invested much of the nation's wealth in constructing

the new temple. People came from far and near to behold its beauty. Thus Jerusalem became the center of Israel's worship and government.

How sad, the future held nothing but destruction and slavery for this city and its people because of their disobedience to their God. Judaism survived the exile. Worship of Jehovah was restored in the rebuilt temple during the restoration. Its Law was taught in the synagogue. During the inter-testament period, many Jews organized themselves into parties. The Pharisees fought to obtain their religious freedom. The Sadducees fought to win political freedom. These parties and others were power blocks with whom Jesus reckoned many times in His ministry. The theological doctors of the Law in Jerusalem (Hillel and Shammai) taught and interpreted the Law. At times they might have disagreed between themselves but their interpretation of the Law usually stood without challenge.

Since, the Children of Israel nationally never accepted Jesus as their personal Messiah, they set Him at naught. They could not bring themselves to believe their Messiah would be born in such lowly circumstances and reared in such poverty as was Jesus. They believed their Messiah would descend through *royalty* and *nobility*. He would possess the wisdom of Solomon and the courage of David. He would fulfill their Scripture according to their beliefs, subdue their enemies and establish justice for all. So, they concluded, Jesus was a good man, maybe a prophet, but not their Messiah. How sad; how wrong they were. Oh, the human sorrow and suffering this nation of people could have avoided by a more accurate understanding of their Scripture.

The gospel of Christ was first declared by the apostles at the celebration of Pentecost following the ascension of Jesus. Paul, after his conversion experience, would become its chief advocate. Its major elements are: (1) Jesus Christ is the Son of God, human and divine; (2) His death, burial, and Resurrection accomplished salvation for all; (3) salvation by unmerited grace through faith appropriated in Christ; (4) His mediatorial ministry at the right hand of his Father in Heaven; (5) His return in the Rapture, His subsequent return in revelation and establishment of the millennial kingdom.

It is important that we understand the gospel of Christ centers salvation in Christ alone. The object of faith for biblical salvation is Jesus. Personal assurance is contingent upon this fact. The anchor of our salvation is Jesus and His accomplishments.

The gospel of Christ as declared by the apostles raised some serious questions among the

Pharisaic-Sadduceean Judaizers in Jerusalem. Heathenism opposed the gospel of Christ because those converted to Christianity ceased to purchase the gods made for individual possession and worship. The rulers in Rome opposed the gospel because it opposed emperor worship. Those converted to Christianity would worship only Jesus Christ. Moreover, the gospel theme was, "A King of kings and Lord of lords," which led the rulers of Rome to think there was someone somewhere in the empire who might challenge their seat of power.

The Judaizers in Jerusalem would not believe that God would grant salvation to the Gentiles by grace and faith alone. They believed the Gentile converts had to be Judaized as well as Christianized. Christianity was not adequate in and of itself. Judaism must be added. Many claimed the experience of salvation at Pentecost and thereafter had a great difficulty shaking off the Jewish point of view. They remained more Jewish than Christian. Parties holding such views were formed within the body of believers at Jerusalem. They were determined not to yield their Jewish traditions for the simplicity of salvation in Christ. This kind of intolerance Paul understood better than the Judaizers themselves. He had once been its foremost exponent. Paul was equally determined the "yoke of the Law" would not be placed upon those Gentiles or Jews who believed the gospel of Christ. A meeting of the minds was set in Jerusalem to seek a settlement to this doctrinal crisis. After much deliberation, the meeting was adjourned. Paul was granted permission to continue his ministry to the Gentiles with certain restrictions. (See Acts 15.) The crisis, in reality, was only relaxed for a while. There was no permanent settlement. Paul departed the meeting with enemies behind and in front. Wherever he went, this crisis was there and he would have to deal with it.

To this day, this doctrinal crisis has not been resolved to the satisfaction of sound Christian practice among believers. Many gospel sermons continue to charge believers with the demands and responsibilities of the Mosaic Law, simply because the speaker has not learned how to distinguish between the two biblical principles of law and grace. They will not mix to the satisfaction of sound doctrine. Mixing them dulls the keen, hard edge of the Law and destroys the liberty of grace. They present probably the greatest contrast in the Bible. And they are the least understood and the most confused. Somewhere in my reading, I remember someone wisely said, "He who knows the relationship between the two principles of law and grace has the key to true theology."

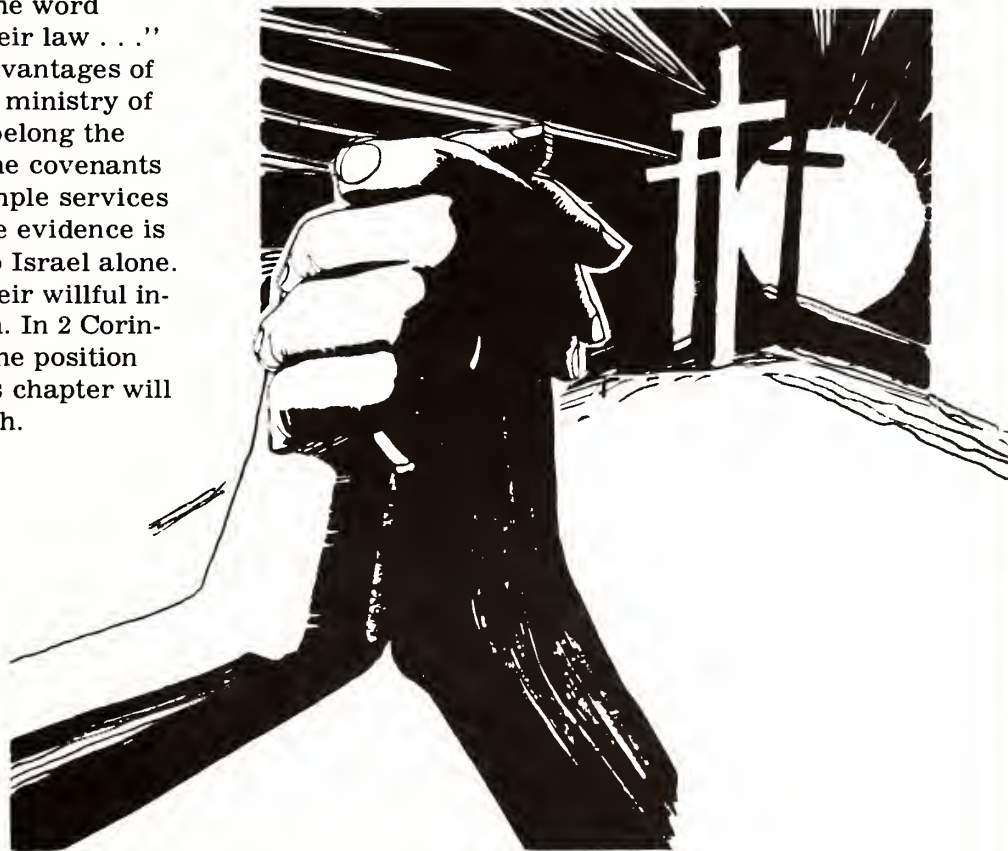
Paul in his letter to the Galatians addresses this question. In Galatians 1:8-9, he pronounces anathema twice upon those who fail to distinguish between these two principles. The curse becomes more solemn when we realize it has never been revoked, but stands today as irrevocable a warning as when Paul penned it. I can tell you now, it behooves us as Christians, be we layman or clergy, to study well these principles that we may better give each its proper place. Believers will never know the fullness of joy that comes with the knowledge of sin forgiven and the assurance of salvation until they realize themselves free from the "yoke of the Law." Bible study will be burdensome and belief will be unsound.

From the testimony of Scripture, the Law is the Mosaic system of statutes, ordinances and commandments. This system was addressed and given to one people and only one—Israel. Moses asked Israel, "And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?" (Deuteronomy 4:8). In Deuteronomy 4:44-45, "And this is the law which Moses set before the children of Israel: These are the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which Moses spake unto the children of Israel, after they came forth out of Egypt." Jesus while in the Upper Room celebrating the Jewish Passover, instituting the Lord's Supper and washing the disciples' feet, said, "But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law . . ." (John 15:25). Paul enumerates the advantages of the Jew over other nations before the ministry of Christ, "who are Israelites to whom belong the adoptions of sons and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple services and the promises" (Romans 9:4). The evidence is abundantly clear. The Law belongs to Israel alone. Those who insist otherwise display their willful inexcusable ignorance of biblical truth. In 2 Corinthians 3, there is additional proof of the position taken here. An honest exegesis of this chapter will convince anyone who seeks Bible truth.

The Law was "holy, just and good," declares Paul in Romans 7:12. But it was powerless to redeem sinners. It never redeemed one Jew no matter how obedient he had been toward the Law. Not one human being ever appeared justified before God because of his obedience to the Law. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage . . . Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace" (Galatians 5:1, 4).

The question is properly raised at this point in our discussion: If obedience to the Law did not bring the Jew into redeemed relationship with God, how was redemption perfected for the Jew? The Law was the revelation of God to the Jew. It was all they had that gave anyone direction to God. The Old Testament, without question, does ascribe efficacy to the sacrificial system. Many times the Scriptures declare that when sacrifices were offered according to the Law, "it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him" (Leviticus 1:4, 4:26-31; 16:20-22). The effectiveness of the sacrifices was not dependent upon the spiritual state of the person offering them. Neither is it stated or implied that the offerer had to have some glimmer of understanding of what the

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sacrifice prefigured. I'm led to believe there was genuine atonement in the sacrifice for the sins of the offerer. There must have been some christological content in the sacrifice because Paul declares in Hebrews 10:4, "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins." The fact that these sacrifices in some way prefigured Christ made them redemptive in behalf of those who offered them. The question remaining in my mind to which I do not have the answer is, "How much of Christ, if any at all, did the one offering the sacrifice see in his sacrifices?" Do you know? I reason it this way: The individual Israelite was related to God by virtue of being a descendent of Abraham and a citizen of the theocratic kingdom of Israel, circumcision being the visible sign. If the individual Israelite broke the Law, becoming disobedient to God, the Law prescribed the penalty. The Israelite was in a backslidden state and his relationship to the kingdom and God was greatly impaired. Upon offering the sacrifice according to the Law, the worshiper was restored to his theocratic relationship and right relationship with God.

The believer's relationship to God is grounded solely upon grace through faith appropriated in Christ. "Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ," declared John in his Gospel (1:17). Christ said, "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (John 13:34). The grace of God in the New Testament is His unmerited favor in the gift of His Son, who offers salvation to all and who gives to those who receive Him as their personal Saviour added grace for this life and hope for a brighter future.

Grace is a working principle for the believer in the exercise of his faith and Christian service. The legislation of righteousness by some in behalf of others is not the most excellent way. The principle of grace creates the kind of loyalty and Christian service that is unique among believers. The believer is guided in his godliness, soberness and righteousness pretty much the same way as those who recorded the Scriptures. None were forced to record. Those who recorded, recorded the truth because they were guided in Spirit-taught words. In the same manner, the Holy Spirit guides the believer in his daily practice of Christianity. The Bible in the hands of men is a monument to God's revelation and inspirational glory. The believer is a monument to God's grace in salvation.

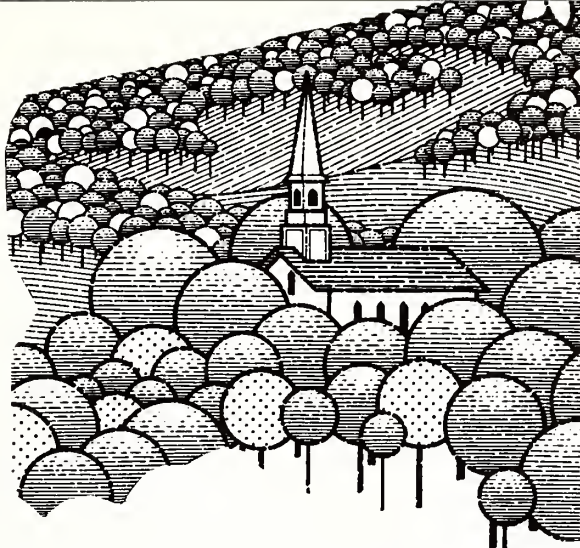
"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, carry to its ultimate conclusion (likeness to the Lord Jesus) your own salvation with wholesome serious caution and

trembling, for God is the one who is constantly putting forth his energy in you, both in the form of your being desirous of and of your doing his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:12-13, *Expanded Translation of the New Testament* by Kenneth Wuest).

If I am understanding the influence and movements of the gospel of Christ with any degree of accuracy beyond the *Acts transistion*, by the end of the first century, the assemblies who remained more Jewish than Christian had all about ceased to exist. The focus of God long upon Israel was now including the nations of the world. The blindness and hardness on the part of Israel toward the gospel and their zeal for Judaism caused them in a "manner of speaking" to be left behind. They settled back and became satisfied with the emptiness of their religion. The temple and synagogues remained the center of worship and education. Those Jews of the diaspora did accordingly. They are today expecting their Messiah to come. Blindness and hardness toward the gospel of Christ bring tragic results. When Pilate's last efforts to release Jesus failed, as he washed his hands before the multitude, he said, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person." They replied, "His blood be on us, and our children" (Matthew 27:24-25). The relevancy of these words to Israel are uniquely true. No nation of people has suffered more nationally or individually than the Jew. The blood of this nation's king has stained the hands of each Jew. They have blindly felt the hurt of that one terrible deed. John 19:15, "But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priest answered, We have no king but Caesar."

The center of the Christian movement was transferred from Jerusalem to Antioch of Syria. From here, Paul launched his missionary journeys. We can be thankful to Luke who recorded many of Paul's experiences as he carried the gospel of Christ to those who had never heard it.

Rome was indeed powerful. It brought many people and nations under its yoke. Human life was valued only as it benefitted the empire. The heel of Rome rested heavy upon any who opposed it. Amid all its power, it was not powerful enough to subdue the gospel of Christ declared by one feeble Jew—Saul of Tarsus, called Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles. He penetrated the empire bringing hope and the offer of salvation to both slave and citizen. Only the Roman axe could stop him, but not until he had finished the task of establishing firmly the gospel of Christ in the hearts of many who would keep it "alive and well" for centuries after his departure.



I like the way Dr. A. T. Robertson describes the closing hours of Paul's life: "One day in late spring or early June (A.D. 68) the executioners came to Paul's dungeon and led him out of the city. One is reminded of Jesus as He bore His cross along His *via dolorosa*. Paul as a condemned criminal would be the victim of the rabble's sport. He would have no defender. We do not know if Luke was with Paul to the very last. We may at least hope so. If he could, he would surely walk along as near to Paul as would be allowed. But no band of Christians followed with him now. He was going out of Rome on his way to the true eternal city. He knew Rome well, but his eyes were fixed on other things. Outside the city the busy, merry life of time went on. The crowds flowed into town. Some were going out. Paul was the only criminal going to be beheaded. Few, if any, of the crowds about would know or care anything about him. At a good place on the road some miles out, the executioners stopped. The block was laid down. Paul laid his head upon it. The sword (or axe) was raised. The head of the greatest preacher of the ages rolled upon the ground. Tradition says that a Roman "matron named Lucina buried the body of St. Paul on her own land beside the Ostian Road," (*Epochs in the Life of Paul*, pp. 316-317).

The great torch bearer for the gospel of Christ was gone. He finished his work here and went *home*. Did Luke or Timothy or someone take the torch and carry it? We don't know. During the last thirty years of the first century and the first fifty-sixty years of the second century, the record of Christianity is not that clear. The center of Christianity slowly made its way to Rome. Because of continued persecutions from the empire, heathenism and the Jews, the Christian to some degree went underground. The books of the New Testament were circulated among believers. The theological schools at Alexandria, Egypt, and Antioch, Syria, introduced methods of Scripture interpretations and formulated systems of belief. Near the close of the second century A.D., the center of

Christianity had been transferred to Rome. Christianity had never enjoyed religious tolerance from the Empire as had Judaism. The Romanization of Christianity brought the freedom and tolerance it had long sought. Christianity would no longer pay for its existence with the blood of its members. The doors of Christianity were open to the evils of the world and the world came in bringing its bounty with it. It was a strange blending of Christianity with paganism. Many Christians objected to the teaching of the bishops and the developing hierarchical system. They formed groups of their own outside (some inside) the bounds of Christianity. Many were persecuted and their beliefs were condemned. The groups be they many or few, held views that were not scripturally sound. But they held some that were. They were probably as sound in doctrine as the councils that condemned them. I would not labor that point with you.

I have included the above paragraphs in this paper because, my reading and study of the history of Christianity bring me to the conclusion that if Original Free Will Baptists have roots reaching that far back, and I think we do, not in name, but in principles of doctrine and practice, these roots identify with principles and practices of many of those groups who did not care to be identified with Christianity that was *married to the world*. It would be much too cumbersome to enter into a detailed discussion of who these groups were and their system of beliefs.

When we take the time to read our *Church Covenant* and *The Articles and Principles for Church Government*, we are reading in my opinion a fair summary of the orthodox beliefs held by groups of Bible-believing believers who were forerunners and founders of our beloved denomination. If by the smallest chance this paper has whetted a thirst for Bible truth, let me encourage you to learn to read your Bible and *read it*.

Our *Church Covenant* and *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government* are a continuing monument to the beliefs and practices of Original Free Will Baptists. Our continued practice of this document will keep us separated from the world and identify who we are. We need never be ashamed from where we came, but we must keep a constant vigil of where we are, that our past and present might guide us into the future. The past, today, reflects our faithfulness to Scripture. Tomorrow, today will reflect our faithfulness today. Our historical position has been one of conservative belief in Scripture and moral purity resulting from salvation based solely upon the merits of Christ. Let each of us pray and give our best, that as we go into the future we may carry the best of the past with us.



THE LESSON OF TITHING

by C. Burke Day Jr.

Eight-year-old Cecil B. Day sat uncharacteristically still on the front row of Immanuel Church in Savannah. His father—the church's pastor—was not standing in the pulpit this night. It was a "revival"—a time in his church which occurred about once a year for a week and was led by a visiting minister.

Cecil looked at the towering guest speaker, James Wesberry from Atlanta. He spoke forcefully about stewardship and how God expects much from those to whom He has given. Cecil leaned forward and listened to each word.

Offering plates were handed to the church's deacons who readied them for passing around the pews.

Cecil wiggled in his seat, then dug deep into his pockets. He pulled out his only two coins—a quarter and a nickel.

As the collection plates neared him, he looked at the large quarter in his left hand; then he looked at the small nickel in his other hand. He kept looking in one palm, then the other.

When the offering plate reached him, he wrestled once more about which coin should go in the offering plate—the shiny quarter or the nickel? Finally, he placed the quarter in the plate, passed it to

the person sitting next to him and smiled with relief.

As the sermon ended, Wesberry challenged those who had never accepted Christ as their Saviour to step forward. Cecil's stomach felt unusually different. Something inside of him edged him to walk forward and make public his declaration of faith.

Cecil wondered if taking such a step might hurt his father's feelings. Since his dad was the church's full-time pastor, would it embarrass him?

Yet the gnawing inside grew more fierce.

Piano music filled the room during the invitational and Wesberry

stepped down to floor level. With outstretched hands he greeted those walking to the front of the sanctuary.

Cecil felt like a balloon close to popping. He leaped off the seat and ran forward.

Warmly greeted by Wesberry, Cecil took a tiny step that forever dictated his longer strides. His father was teary-eyed later that very night as he baptized Cecil.

"I'm very proud of you, son," he said as he immersed Cecil.

A few nights later Cecil joined his father who drove Wesberry to the Savannah train station. The train whistle pierced the air summoning all passengers to board. Cecil watched his father and Wesberry shake hands.

Wesberry started up the steps into the train and stopped. He turned around and gestured for Cecil to approach him.

Cecil walked to the edge of the steps and looked up at the Atlanta-bound preacher.

"Young man," boomed Wesberry, "I want you to take this and split it evenly with your brother."

Cecil stretched up and took what the preacher offered. His eyes popped open and his jaw dropped.

"Dad! Look! A \$5-bill! I get to keep \$2.50 of it, too! *God has given me 10 times what I gave Him!*"

Wesberry tipped his hat to them and disappeared into the train. Cecil stood by his father, watching the train clank away and fade into the night.

As the train chugged back to Atlanta, it didn't leave just a father and son standing at a depot; it pulled away from a financial empire packaged then as a child, who later founded an international chain of motels known as "Days Inns" and would eventually give half of his multi-million dollar estate back to God's church.

—The Christian Index, October 19, 1989.

STEWARDSHIP PERSONIFIED

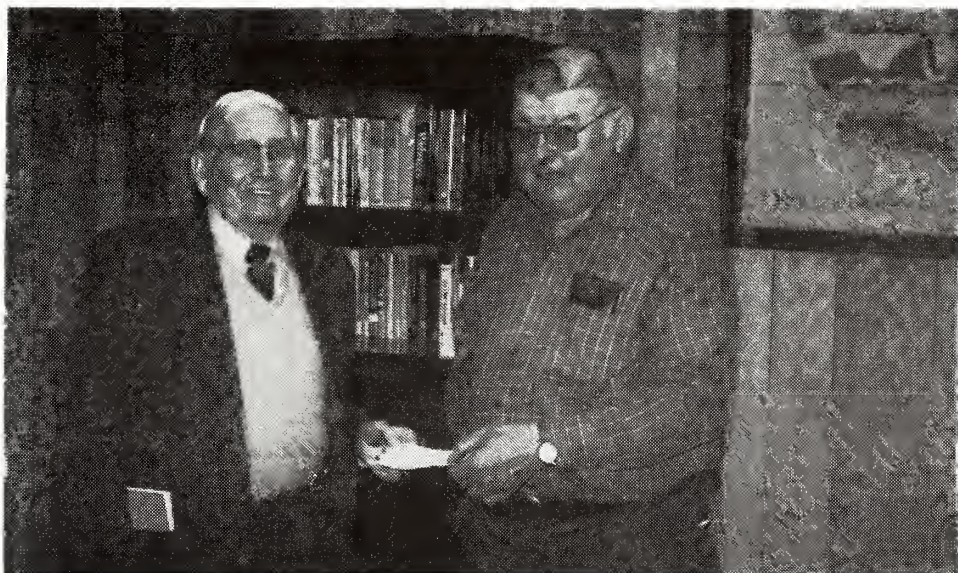
Each of us has been challenged to present ourselves as living sacrifices back to God for His service. We have each been admonished to cheerfully present back to God the first fruits of our labor.

Pictured below are two individuals who believe in giving. Young Meeka Hartsell recently contributed \$440 to the Rev. David Charles Hansley, executive director of the Home Missions and Evangelism ministry. Meeka, who attends Elwood Lane Church, Kannapolis, raised the money herself.



The Rev. David Charles Hansley, Meeka Hartsell, and the Rev. Wayne Watson, pastor of Elwood Lane Church.

The Rev. Foy Futrelle is a devout Free Will Baptist. He is shown here presenting a check to the Rev. Walter Sutton, director of the Retirement Homes ministry. Mr. Futrelle pastored Rose of Sharon Church, Bear Grass, NC, until he was forced to retire due to health reasons.



The Revs. Foy Futrelle and Walter Sutton

NOT SO TRIVIAL (SUNDAY SCHOOL) PURSUIT

Do you know the answers to these Sunday School questions?

1. What's the average Sunday School class size?
2. True or false: Most Sunday Schools have over 500 students attending on any given week.
3. True or false: If things keep going the way they have been going, Sunday School will soon be a thing of the past.

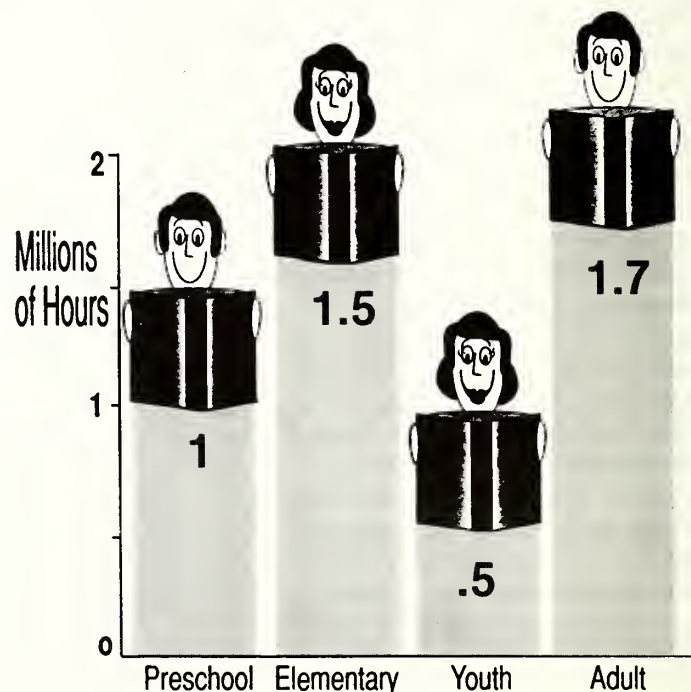
Answers:

1. *Twelve students*—the same class size as the one taught by the world's greatest teacher—Jesus Christ. The average size for two's and three's is five kids. The average class size for kindergarten through junior high is six. What a tremendous teacher-student ratio! The largest classes are adult.
2. *False.* Two-thirds of all churches have less than 100 students in Sunday School.
3. *False.* From time to time, people have predicted the end of the Sunday School. If you were given the assignment of locating 100 churches that feel that Sunday School is a thing of the past, you would have to contact 5,000 churches. On the other hand, if your assignment were to locate 100 churches that say the opposite, you'd only have to contact 102. In the 1980's, attendance increased 7.1 percent. That's 2,400,000 students. Ninety-eight percent of all churches in this country have Sunday School.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON PREPARATION

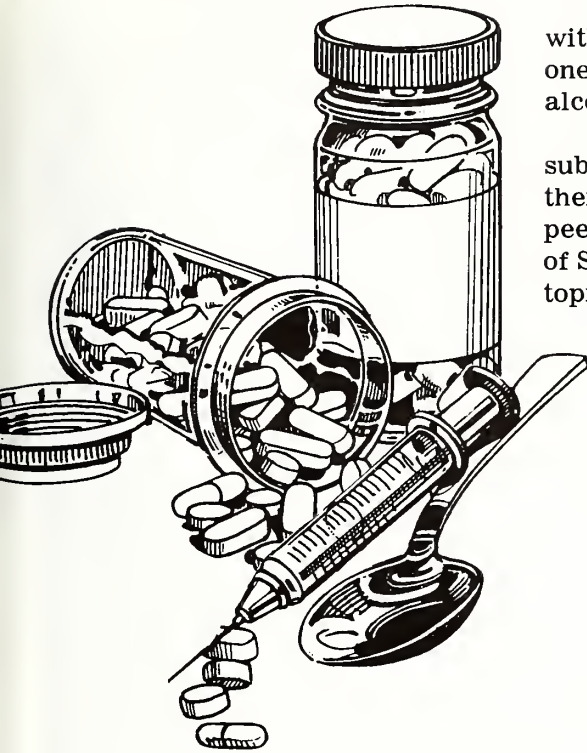
Add the total number of hours all Sunday School teachers spend preparing for their lessons each Sunday. Your total will be 4.8 million hours. That's the equivalent of 549 years of studying for every single Sunday.

Total Preparation Hours = 4.8 Million/ Wk



David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 N. Grove,
Elgin, IL 60120.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION



The problem of alcohol and drug abuse among youth is one that continues to plague parents, educators and other concerned individuals. Numerous reasons have been offered as to why young people use alcohol and other drugs: lack of self-confidence, simple curiosity, pressure to succeed at school, and the desire to be accepted by peers.

Now that school is back in session, young people of all ages are faced with the ever-present problem of peer pressure. It has been offered as one of the strongest factors that causes young people to experiment with alcohol and other drugs at such early ages.

Although parents often feel helpless in dealing with the issue of substance use and abuse, there are some steps parents can take to help their children develop the self-confidence and skills necessary to resist peer pressure. The following list of action items developed by the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention can help parents deal with this sensitive topic.

1. **Talk to the child about alcohol and drugs.** Make sure he/she understands the dangers and problems of alcohol and other drug use.
2. **Learn to really listen.** Knowing how and when to listen can keep the lines of communication open.
3. **Help the child feel good about himself.** He/she should believe his/her parents have confidence in him/her.
4. **Help the child develop strong values.** This will give the child the courage to make decisions based on facts rather than pressure.
5. **Be a good role model or example.** Young people are aware of their parents' attitudes and habits concerning alcohol.
6. **Help the child deal with peer pressure.** Children who have been taught to be agreeable and loving may need skills to enable them to resist group peer pressure.
7. **Set firm rules about drinking and other drug use.** Family rules should be clear and consistent. The child should thoroughly understand the consequences of breaking the rules.
8. **Encourage healthy and creative activities.** Young people need structure in their lives. Create activities that they can have fun with.
9. **Talk to other parents.** It can help to network with other parents and community groups.
10. **Know what to do if you suspect a problem.** Parents must learn to recognize the signs of use and abuse and know where to get professional help.

By developing self-confident and educated children, parents can help create what is known as a "positive norm," where social pressure can have a positive effect by encouraging others to do something that is good or right. When we teach our children to take the leadership role in educating their friends, it can be an integral part of developing their feelings of self-reliance and commitment, which are vital in saying "no" to alcohol and other drugs. It also creates an atmosphere that will make it easier for other young people to say "no" and still feel good about themselves.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) strives to educate parents, teachers and young people alike through many youth awareness and youth training programs. For more information about these programs, contact your local chapter of MADD or MADD National Youth Programs, 669 Airport Freeway, Suite 310, Hurst, TX 76053.

SATANISM AND TROUBLED KIDS

According to Tom Claunch, a consultant to Cedar Springs Hospital, certain groups of kids do not make it through the normal developmental process. These become high risk kids. Typically high risk kids have one or more of the following characteristics: They are from a dysfunctional family; they have an attention deficit disorder (hyperactive); they are sexually abused; they are elementary school failures; they are slow in their growth, for instance their physical growth or they have some physical defect. Unfortunately, these are the kids that are not accepted by the "normal" or "positive" kids. There are four kinds of negative groups: alcohol/drug abusers, gangs, suicide pacts and cults.

Adolescents are attracted to cults for a variety of reasons. Some may be looking for acceptance or to meet unmet needs. Others are attracted by the power of the cult or the alcohol, drugs and sex. There are three types of satanic groups that a young person may get involved with. The first is the Church of Satan, which is protected by the First Amendment. The second is the satanic cult. An example of this would be Son of Sam, Charles Mason, or the Night Stalker. The third type of group is the dabblers or the self-style satanists. This is where most young people begin in their involvement with Satan, and it is a very dangerous stage. In this stage, a young person is taking a little bit from this group and that group putting it together. If someone does not intervene in this stage, then this young person will more than likely become involved with the satanic cult.

SATANIC SYMBOLS

The following are a sample of satanic symbols. You should familiarize yourself with these and other satanic symbols so that you can identify potential problems with your children or their friends.



The upside down cross with a question mark on it is better known as the Cross of Confusion, questioning Christianity. This is an ancient Roman Symbol. When the symbol of the Goddess Diana, a crescent moon, is turned to face in this direction towards the symbol of Lucifer (which means "morning star"), a star, it is satanic.



The satanic salute is also known as the Devil's Triad. This salute is always given with the left hand.

The Black Mass Indicator indicates that a Black Mass was or is going to be performed.



The hexagram is not to be confused with the Star of David. This is also referred to as the Seal of Solomon. It is the most powerful symbol used by occultists. In the '60s this was a peace symbol; in the '80s and '90s it is the "Cross of Nero." It represents an upside down cross, with the broken cross members signifying the defeat of Christianity among the occultists.

PLACES TO WORSHIP

by Lynette Sumerlin

Has there ever been a time when you wanted to sleep late on Sunday morning—too late to go to Sunday School and worship service? Have you ever wished you could skip prayer meeting or a youth meeting and stay home and watch television? The Bible teaches us to meet with other Christians to worship the Lord. Hebrews 10:23-25 says, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

There are several words the Bible uses to refer to Christians and the places where they gather together to worship. Use the words below to fill in the blanks. To help you, the number beside each word is the number of times that word is used. First, fill in all the blanks and then check yourself by looking up each verse.

congregation—3

temple—4

tabernacle—3

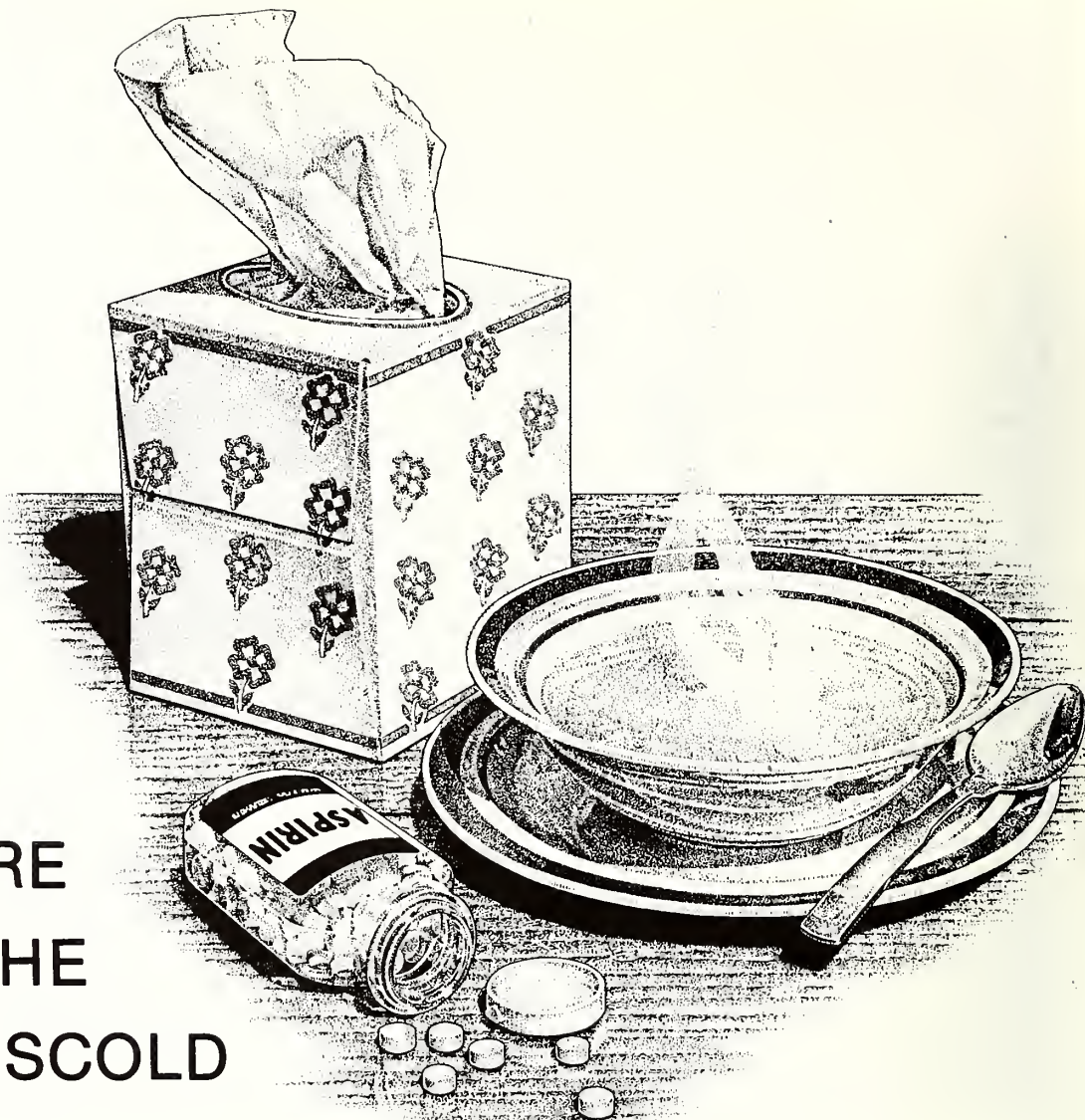
assembly—4

church—3

sanctuary—3

1. And Moses did as the LORD commanded him; and the _____ was gathered together unto the door of the _____ of the _____ (Leviticus 8:4).
2. A minister of the _____, and of the true _____, which the Lord pitched, and not man (Hebrews 8:2).
3. To the general _____ and _____ of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect (Hebrews 12:23).
4. . . . and the whole _____ of the _____ of Israel shall kill it in the evening (Exodus 12:6).
5. . . . Praise God in his _____ . . . (Psalm 150:1).
6. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the _____: but if he neglect to hear the _____, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican (Matthew 18:17).
7. And let them make me a _____; that I may dwell among them (Exodus 25:8).
8. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the _____ of the _____ of the children of Israel (Numbers 14:5).
9. Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The _____ of the LORD, The _____ of the LORD, The _____ of the LORD, are these (Jeremiah 7:4).
10. Afterward he brought me to the _____, and measured the posts, six cubits broad on the one side, and six cubits broad on the one side, which was the breadth of the _____ (Ezekiel 41:1).

A CURE FOR THE COMMON SCOLD



by Charles L. Carr, Executive Director
General Baptist Foreign Mission Society, Inc.

Submitted by the Rev. Gary Bailey. Reprinted from *Capsule*, newsletter of GB Foreign Mission Society, Inc. Permission granted.

The Holy Grail of medical science has been to find a cure for that most common malady, the common cold. There is a spiritual counterpart to this disease which, for lack of a better name, I call "the common scold." Can we talk?

Thousands of hours of productive time are lost every year when otherwise healthy people come down with some form of the common rhino virus. Millions of dollars are spent for medications of every description, which, we all know, only serve to bring temporary relief at best. We can only treat the symptoms, for as yet there is no known cure.

Oh, the misery! Who doesn't know that run-down, runny-nose feeling when everybody you know is doing everything all wrong, when chills and fever, coughing, sneezing, headaches, aching

joints and practically every other bad thing comes on you all at the same time. This torture seems to arrive just when everything else is going wrong, like broken shoestrings, coffee spills, and flat tires.

Moreover, the virus is highly contagious, spreads on contact, and, until it's run its course, defies orange juice, vitamin-C, and the latest wonder-drug from your good-neighbor pharmacist down the street. Colds are supposed to be seasonal, but a summer cold is particularly outrageous. They can happen anytime.

Just try to get a little sympathy when you are the victim! No way! Everybody else has a bad-cold story that, by comparison, makes your condition sound like a day at Opryland. And a little sympathy is what you need so badly! You get the picture.

Well, over the years I have observed a spiritual disease with a lot of similarities to what I have described above. Hence, "The Common Scold."

The victim experiences a sudden compulsion to straighten out somebody. Other symptoms are the irresistible urge to complain, gripe, pass judgment.

Now, since this is a spiritual—or at least religious—disease, the common scold usually spreads the disease at church gatherings, board meetings, and coffee breaks!

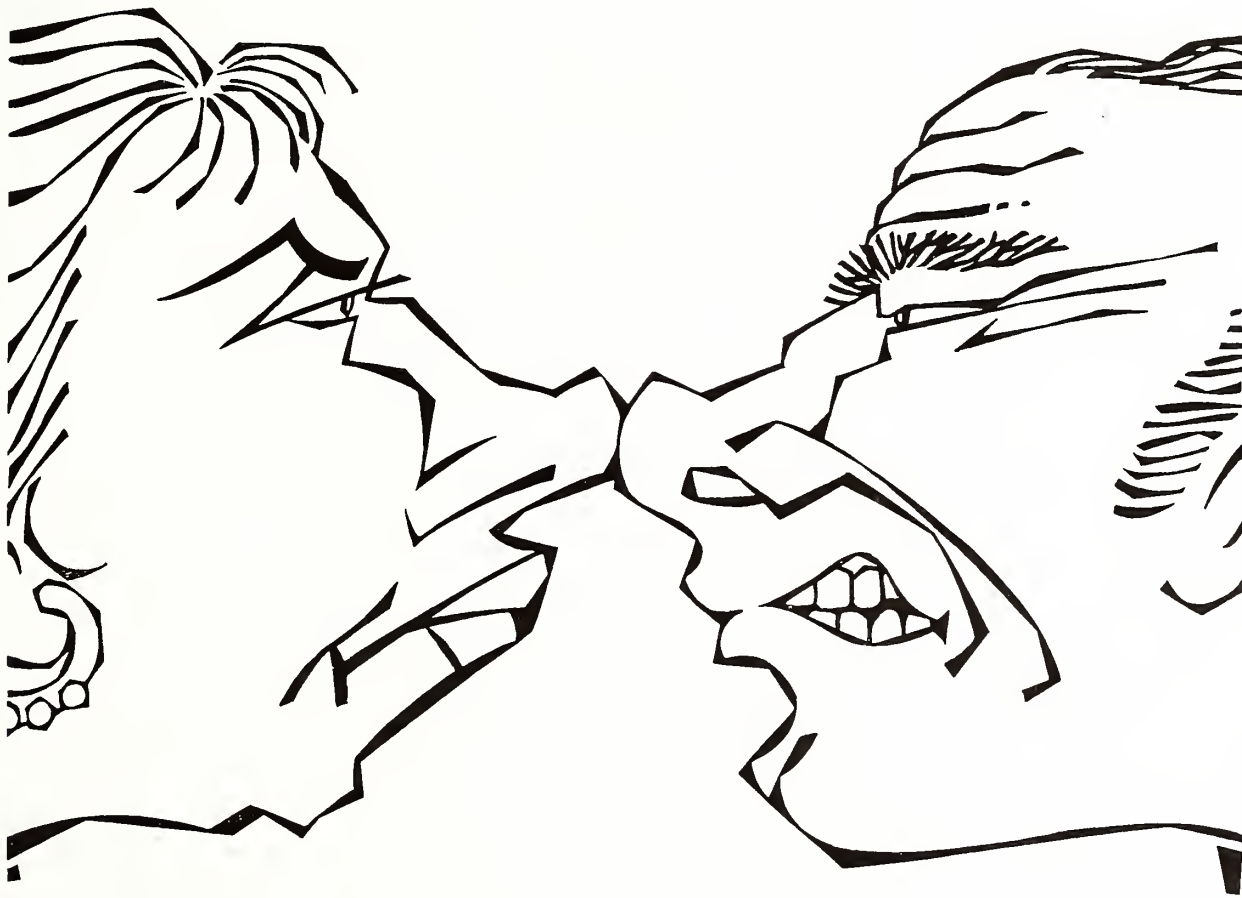
The feverish tirades cover local politics, national politics, church politics. The scold can't stop there. His denomination is rotten to the core, the leaders are either asleep or fighting each other, the preacher stinks (or the deacon is a dud), and everyone else is a hypocrite.

The bad thing about this disease is that you can catch it again and again as there is no natural immunity. In chronic cases, the victim lives with it for many miserable years, his life devoid of joy, peace, and fulfillment. The disease stains his reputation, overcomes his better nature, and, like some kind of cancer, eventually fuses permanently with his personality, turning him into a sorehead.

He is now a carrier, spreading drippy-nosed discord among the brethren, breathing clouds of discouragement and suspicion among the unprotected, leaving a trail of disease-laden tissues to further contaminate the spiritual environment. Blessed is the church that has escaped the epidemic caused by such a one.

Now, before you accuse me of peeking into anybody's personal spiritual health record files, let me confess that I have had several bouts with this affliction myself and I know you can catch it from almost anybody. Only the most sainted are immune. I regret the misery I am sure I have caused, and I thank God for those who took pity and forgave my helpless condition.

Only the Lord has the cure for the common scold, and the vaccine, if there is one, is a heavenly-guarded secret. So, when you get an attack of the spiritual sniffles, and feel that spasmodic urge to give somebody, anybody, a good dressing down, take a little pity on your fellow-pilgrims. Break the cycle of infection. Take a prayer break. Get some rest. Leave your phone off the hook. Take a spiritual laxative. Avoid personal contacts, public meetings and coffee breaks till all symptoms have disappeared. Here's to your good health!





Louder Than Lyrics

by Wayne Watson

I think my kids like me. They like what I do and appreciate the eternal value of the many days I have to spend away from them. I know you're thinking how blessed I should feel . . . and I do.

I think, though, that my kids have a slightly warped view of reality and of what it means to

work. I enjoy extended periods of time at home and realize it's a luxury, but the time at home is counterbalanced by long stretches on the road. My boys don't see the "work" side of my life. In fact, upon being questioned one day at school about the nature of "Dad's work," my

youngest son, Adam, responded, "Oh, nobody works at our house." Uh-huh.

I think because they enjoy what I do—though they don't really consider it work—my kids listen to me, and, at times, even learn. They learn from being told, of course, but more often, they learn

from being shown. As I write this, my oldest son, Neal, is 12 and headed for seventh grade. (Junior high! Any suggestions? Write to me, Wayne Watson . . .)

I'm told by a noted authority that although Neal puts pretty serious stock in what I say now, one day he'll awaken to the conclusion that "the old man" is a bonehead. They say this happens somewhere around the age of 13. Imagine overnight I'm going to go from genius to moron. (I've had happier thoughts.)

Still, my quest to be a godly parent remains unshaken. Even if my kids' perceptions of me change, my responsibility is to lead them to the truth and trust that God will care for His own. After all, they've always been His and not mine anyway. My prime objective isn't to make them happy at all costs or even to be their pal, but to be a father to them and direct them toward godliness and obedience.

On my current album, *The Fine Line*, I make serious statements about idols, forgotten crusades, and the results of loneliness and defeat. In the song "Untouched by Human Hands" I express my own inconsistency in loving people, all people. I'm trying, really trying, to ask more often, "What would Jesus do? How would He respond to the dying AIDS patient or to the homeless on the street?"

I suppose we could barrel through life, oblivious to the needs of those who are "not like us." But, as I see it, as we're confronted with or spiritually convicted by "what would Jesus do?," we must deal with it. The excuse "this is just the way I am" doesn't cut it. We either ignore the voice or we change.

My wife and I were invited to New Orleans recently. I was there to judge a talent contest—sponsored by a local radio station—for aspiring young artists. Our family was pampered and well-fed. The trip turned out to be a mini-

vacation for us. The boys had never been in the heart of a city like New Orleans. (Is there another city like New Orleans?) It was interesting to see their reactions.

As we walked down one narrow French Quarter sidewalk, I saw a man who would have a haunting effect on the rest of our day. As we approached him—with the boys walking in front—he stuck out his hand. He said nothing; he just held out his hand.

Adam, my 9-year-old, locked eyeball to eyeball with me. He didn't say a word, but his expression said, "Well, Dad, what are you going to do about this?"

In my heart, I have visions of heroism, nobly setting the perfect example in word and deed. But, when suddenly confronted with the opportunity to *act*, I blew it. That's right, I blew it. It's easier to be noble and pursue godliness and conformity to Christ's image in songs than it is in real life. I quickly re-directed our path past the man. I also managed to tarnish the rest of the day. I felt awful.

Adam is a sensitive, introspective child. He didn't have much fun that day. Later in the evening, I found out why. I asked him, "Didn't you like the food? Seeing the river? The street artists?" He looked at me. With his bottom lip quivering, he dropped the bomb. "Dad, we didn't do *anything* for that man."

"Which one?"

"The one who stuck out his hand, the one we had to walk around. Why didn't you give him some money or something?"

"Well, honey, lots of times when you give them money, they just use it to buy alcohol."

"Yeah, but couldn't you get him some meal tickets from somewhere or something like that so that he could eat?"

"Sure. We could have done that, but, again, he probably would have bought a cup of coffee, took

the change, and bought wine or something. Do you think that would be good?"

"No, sir, I guess not. But I wish we could have done something."

"Me too. I was wrong."

My song "The Fine Line" says:
*There's a fine line . . . when I hide
my eyes*

*From the darkest of life's insanity
From the worst of the world's profanity*

Oh, I gotta be careful

*I don't miss someone in need of
me*

It's a fine line

Yes, it's a fine line.

—Author Unknown

Dear God, help me to never stop being sickened by the tragedy and consequences of sin. Keep my heart broken. Don't let my children grow callous to people in need. Help me not just to grieve, but to *act*. Help me to learn and to teach those in my care to hate the things You hate and love the things You love.

Reprinted from *Bookstore Journal*.

Wayne Watson records on Word's Day-Spring label. At the 1989 Dove Awards, he was named Male Vocalist of the Year, and his composition "Friend of a Wounded Heart" was chosen Song of the Year.

VBS WORKSHOP

1990 Standard Theme:
**FRIEND Dimension—
JESUS' DESIGN
FOR FRIENDSHIP IN
A HI-TECH WORLD**

Free Will Baptist Press
811 North Lee Street
Ayden, NC 28513

7:30 P.M.

PROJECT EAST

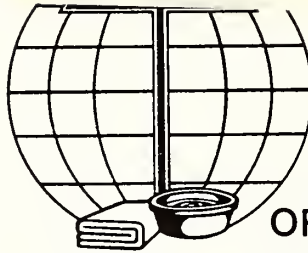
(Continued from Page 6)

Economics." Dr. William C. Friday, executive director of the Kenan Charitable Trust and former president of the University of North Carolina System, will present the opening address for the conference at 11 a.m. in College Hall. He will discuss educational development as a tool for regional change.

Dr. Billy Ray Hall, president of the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, will present the evening address for this conference at 7:30 p.m. in College Hall. He will address economic development as a tool for regional change. Both lectures are open to the public without charge.

The departments of business, languages and literature, and social sciences are sponsors of the premiere conference of Project EAST.

For more information on Project EAST, contact Dr. Barbara Kornegay, vice president for planning; Mr. Anthony Hatcher, professor of English; or Sandra Phelps, director of Public Information, at (919) 658-2502.



CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

January, 1990

Dear Fellow Minister:

The Central Conference is providing funds to sponsor an annual workshop to benefit the churches of our Conference and Denomination. After considering various recommendations from fellow pastors, the Executive Committee decided the subject of this first annual workshop should be "The Ministry of the Deacon." Such a workshop will provide assistance to busy, over-worked pastors and deacons alike by providing some very practical ideas that can be adapted to enhance the ministry of our churches through effective deacon involvement. We have selected highly qualified people to provide the leadership for the workshop which will be held at First Church, Greenville, on Tuesday, February 27, beginning at 7 p.m. The workshop will last approximately two hours.

Following is an outline of the workshop:

- A. The Ministry of the Deacon—The Biblical and Doctrinal Basis
- B. The Historical Development of the Role of Deacons in the Local Church
Break (Refreshments)
- C. Developing a Program of Deacon Ministry
- D. My Ministry as a Deacon (A testimony of practical ideas by a layman who has been very active in a "Deacon Family Ministry Program.")

Many of our pastors have indicated the need for such a workshop, and we hope you will find it beneficial. As a pastor and leader of your people, we hope you will attend the workshop to gain ideas for getting your deacons more involved in the ministry of the church and encourage your deacons to attend with you.

In order to help us provide appropriate seating and adequate printed materials for the workshop, please fill out the form below and mail it on or before February 13 to Leon Grubbs, Central Conference Clerk, Route 2, Box 290, Snow Hill, NC 28580.

Yours in Christ,

Leon Grubbs

Leon Grubbs
Central Conference Clerk



Your Name _____

Church _____

Number who will attend workshop _____

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MARCH
1990

Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Notes and Quotes

22

Children's Corner

23

Sunday School Teachers Hear Cries of Broken-Home Teens

24

Biblical Salvation, the Christian Experience
and Personal Testimony

25

The Miracle of the Draw of Fishes

29

Preparing Articles for Publication

31



February 1990

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No. 3

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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FOUNDING FATHERS HONORED

Antioch Church, New Bern, observed "Founding Fathers" Month during January and closed out this phase of their Centennial Celebration on February 4.

Even though these forefathers have long departed this earthly tabernacle, their descendants have gathered each Sunday to honor their memory for the Christian heritage they have left and to have fellowship meals following the worship services.

Pastor Jerry B. English and the members of Antioch Church invite everyone to share with them the love of God.

EXAMINING BOARD TO MEET

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet Monday, March 19, at 10 a.m. at First Church, Kinston (Room 201).

All persons having business with the Board are asked to be present.

SEMINAR SCHEDULED

The Cape Fear Conference Board of Education is sponsoring a training seminar entitled, "Family Enrichment Seminars." The seminar is scheduled for March 19 and 26, at 7 p.m., at Lee's Chapel Church, located approximately 2 miles southeast of Dunn, on Highway 421.

Each church is encouraged to attend and bring as many as possible. The seminar is for families and/or individuals of all ages.

JOINT REVIVAL PLANNED

The Joint Revival for the Cape Fear Union has been planned for March 1-3. The theme will be "Together We Lift His Name." Services will begin each night at 7:30 p.m.

March 1990

Thursday night is sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary at Shady Grove Church, located on Highway 13, near Spivey's Corner. The speaker will be Mrs. Ruth Warrick. Friday night, the ministers' program will be at Pleasant Grove Church, Erwin, NC, located off Highway 421 North of Dunn. The speaker for the evening will be the Rev. Jeff Scarborough. Saturday night, the revival will be held in conjunction with the Youth Fellowship at Faith Church, located in Johnston County, Route 4, Four Oaks. The speaker will be the Rev. Hubert Stanley.

Your attendance is encouraged. All churches who participate each night will be recognized at the Union Meeting in April.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH MEETING

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet on March 3, at Faith Church. All youth are encouraged to attend.

THIRD UNION SCHEDULES MEETING

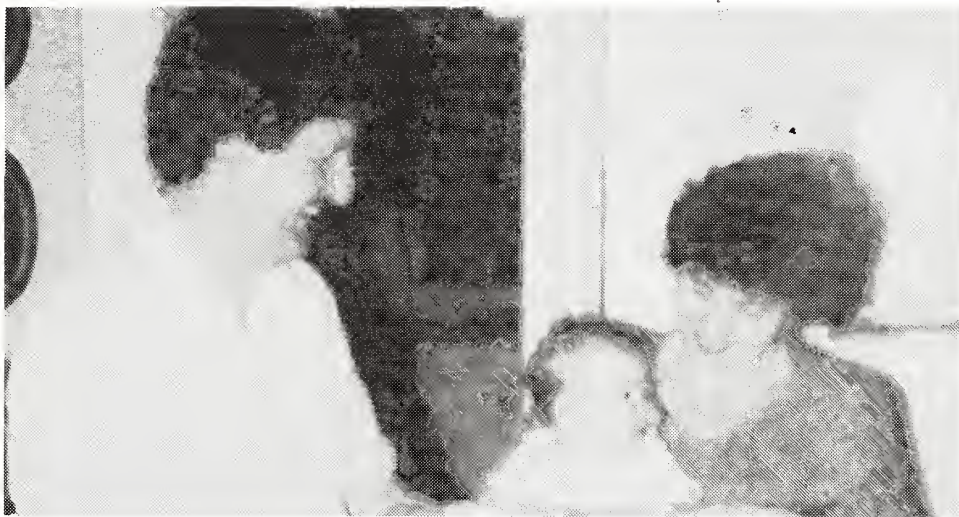
The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Piney Grove Church near Albertson, NC, April 28, at 10 a.m.

The Union will meet at Smith's New Home Church, July 28, 1990; and at Sreads Ferry Church on September 29, 1990.

All churches of the district are encouraged to represent by delegate.

The officers for this year are: Moderator—the Rev. A. B. Bryan, Assistant Moderator—the Rev. Andrew Hill, Treasurer—Mr. Mitchell Parker, Clerk—Mr. Justin Kornegay, Assistant Clerk—Mrs. Linda Pierce, Reading Clerk—the Rev. O. B. Taylor, Finance Committee—the Rev. Kenneth Littleton, Mr. Joseph Hardison and Mrs. Betty Smith.

GRIFFITHS HONORED



by Judy Cox

On January 1, 1990, the Rev. Joe Griffith and his wife, Rae, celebrated ten years of ministry with St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City. The members of the church gave them a surprise party and presented them with a special cake and a silver tray. Also at the party was little Millie Marie Griffith, pictured above with her proud parents. We at St. Paul have been truly blessed by Mr. Griffith. We pray that God will give us many more years together.

CENTRAL TALENT AWARDED



CDYF Talent Competition Winners: Cherubs, AFC and YFA.

The Central District Youth Fellowship held its annual Talent Competition in preparation of the State Youth Convention on January 19-20, at Free Union



Church, Walstonburg.

Winners were as follows: *Cherubs*, first place—Free Union Church, second place—Tarboro Church, third place—King's Cross Roads Church; *AFC*, first place—King's Cross Roads

Church, second place—Elm Grove Church, third place—Free Union Church; *YFA*, first place—Black Jack Church, second place—King's Cross Roads Church, third place—Elm Grove Church and Marlboro Church.

ORDINATION SERVICE HELD AT SHILOH CHURCH

On Friday, November 17, 1989, an ordination service was held for the Rev. M. E. Davis at Shiloh Church in Pinetown, North Carolina.

Mr. Davis recently relocated from West Virginia to accept the pastorate at Shiloh Church. He was already an ordained Original Free Will Baptist minister of eleven years, being affiliated with the Boone Quarterly Conference of Free Will Baptists in southern West Virginia.

Pictured here with the Rev. and Mrs. M. E. Davis are the members of the Albemarle Conference Ordaining Council: front row, left—the Rev. James Owens; back row from left to right—the Revs. Robert May, W. S. Burns, Charlie Overton and F. Joe Griffith.

During the ordination service, as is customary, Shiloh Church presented Mr. Davis with an Original Scofield Study Bible to be utilized in his theological studies with Bethany Bible College and



Seminary. After the service, there was a reception held in the Fellowship Hall for Mr. and Mrs. Davis, the Albemarle Ordination Council and those members of Shiloh Church who were in attendance at the service.

CHRISTMAS SENIOR CITIZEN SUPPER

On December 2, 1989, the Oak Grove Ladies Auxiliary, Bladenboro, served the senior citizens of the church a buffet meal. About fifty senior citizens attended the supper. Each one received an ornament to go on his Christmas tree. The meal was enjoyed by everyone.

REVIVAL SCHEDULED

On March 11-17, the members of Oak Grove Church, Bladenboro, will hold their spring revival. The Rev. Ronnie Parker, of Folkstone, NC, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each night.

The service will start at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen



Mrs. Carrie Lee Haddock

Mrs. Odell (Carrie Lee) Haddock was the senior citizen honored by the Adult Sunday School Class of Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, for the month of January.

Carrie Lee, as she is called by all of her friends which are many, has been a member of Pleasant Hill Church since the early 1950s. She was baptized at the age of fourteen and was a member of Oak Grove prior to joining our church. She taught the Beginner's Class for fifteen years. She also sang in the choir for years.

Carrie Lee has been an active participant in the Woman's Auxiliary, serving as an officer in the local and representing in the conventions as a delegate. She has helped others and witnessed for the Lord even when she wasn't well herself. She is a wonderful cook and has run a restaurant next to her home off and on for several years.

Carrie loves her pastors and their families. She was one of the first members to give Mr. Bowen and me a beautiful afghan and pillow to match after we came to the church. She has also served delicious meals to us. She is a Christian lady that shares in so many ways, including bringing

others to church and helping the less fortunate. Really she is more like a sister to me than just a friend.

The former Carrie Lee Coward, she was married to Odell Haddock in 1936. To this union were born two sons, Talmadge Haddock and Harold Haddock; and a daughter, Madeline Haddock. She also has six grandchildren, three step-grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

Carrie Lee is a very loving and caring Christian who serves as treasurer of the Adult Class. Therefore, we were glad to have the opportunity to honor her with a delightful coffee hour attended by the entire Sunday School and present her with a red rose bouquet.

FEBRUARY AT REEDY BRANCH

by Mary Lee Smart

February was a very busy time for the youth of Reedy Branch Church. The first two Sunday nights during the month, the children ages 4 to 12 worked on Valentine cards, bookmarks and necklaces for their parents.

On February 10, the children were given a Cupid's Banquet; spaghetti, salad, rolls and tea were served. The children brought valentines to exchange with each other. After the meal, they went into the church to see six new members baptized.

On February 18, the teens of the church held Youth Sunday. Glenn Mills, our youth director, and his wife Jessie helped them prepare. The teens taught Sunday School and were in charge of all the

(Turn the Page)

SMITH'S NEW HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL AWARDS PERFECT ATTENDANCE PINS



Awards for perfect attendance in Sunday School at Smith's New Home Church, Route 1, Deep Run, for the year 1989 were given to those pictured above, on Sunday morning, January 21, 1990, by the superintendent, Melvin Smith. Those recognized were (top row: left to right) Betty Heath, Susan Smith, Louise Jones; (second row) Ashley and Ronnie Smith.

The Rev. Walter Sutton is pastor of the church.

music for the church. Jessie had the devotion for opening assembly. Glenn brought the message for Sunday morning and night services. We thank God for sending us Glenn and Jessie.

On the 18th, the children ages 4 to 12 spent an enjoyable afternoon bowling. They came back to the church for refreshments and to play in the fellowship building.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Everett Harper has a new address. It is as follows: 917 Carolina Beach Avenue, North Carolina Beach, NC 28428. His phone number is (919) 458-8509.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Piney Grove Church, Route 8, Box 530, Greenville, NC 27834, has an immediate opening for the position of Youth Director. This position requires 3-5 hours weekly, with a starting salary of \$40 per week. For further information please contact, the Rev. Joe Ratcliff at 756-7430, or write to the above address.

WESTERN DISTRICT WOMEN TO MEET

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Selma Church, Selma, on April 4. "Seeking God" will be the theme of the day, with Matthew 6:33 serving as the theme Scripture.

The Executive Committee of the Convention asks that each auxiliary bring a special offering for the renovation of the church in India.

The scheduled Convention program follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:15 a.m.—Registration

9:45 a.m.—Hymn, "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

—Devotion, Ruth War-
rick

—Welcome, Annie Tay-
lor, local president

—President's Remarks

10:15 a.m.—Hymn, "More About Jesus"

—Special Offering for
Foreign Missions
Project (India)

—News from Our Deno-
minational Ministries,
the Rev. C. H. Over-
man, general secre-
tary

—Report of Our Youth
Work, Nancy Boykin

11:00 a.m.—Hymn, "I Need Thee
Every Hour"

—Convention Offering

—Special Music, Linda
Vann Lassiter

—Message, Alma Dale

12:00 noon—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15 p.m.—Hymn, "Footprints of
Jesus"

—Special Music, the
Rev. Frank Grubbs

—Devotion and Mem-
orial Service, Carol
Parrish

—Business Session

—Closing Hymn

YOUTH AND VAN MINISTRIES



Sidney Church, Albemarle Conference, is now in its third year of having Youth Church. Youth Church is a ministry for children from pre-kindergarten through eleven years old. Youth Church meets at 11 a.m. every Sunday morning in the fellowship hall, under the capable direction of Don Jones.

Don Jones has a special talent in working with children and owns and operates Wee Wisdom Daycare in Belhaven. Along with "Mr. Don," several church members share their gifts of ministry by providing music sessions, Bible stories, and arts and crafts. The Youth Church membership averages 25-30 per week and has greatly contributed to the growth of the Sunday School and other church programs.

A key ingredient which helped the Youth Church reach out to "un-churched youths in the Sidney area was the implementation of a van ministry, headed by Hank Leigh. Hank is very dedicated in driving the van on Sundays and many other occasions. This helps to keep the youth program alive.

Sidney is now underway with a new building project that will provide more room for the Youth Church program. Completion of the building project is expected to be this summer and will be dedicated on August 26, Sidney's 100th anniversary.

SPECIAL ENRICHMENT SERVICES AT NORTHEAST CHURCH DURING MARCH

Northeast Church, Route 5, Mount Olive, has designated the month of March "Family Enrichment and Spiritual Growth Month." Special emphases will include special visiting speakers for each Sunday in March at the 11 a.m. worship. Each Sunday of the month will place emphasis upon family and spiritual growth in fulfillment of God's command to "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22).

Sunday, March 4, will be "Evangelism and Outreach Sunday." The Rev. David C. Hansley, executive director of Home Missions and Evangelism of the North Carolina Convention of Free Will Baptists, will be the visiting speaker. Sunday, March 11, will be "Layman's Enrichment Opportunity and Growth Sunday." G. Keith Fisher, attorney at law, of Jacksonville, NC, will speak. The visiting attorney and his wife will provide a program of special singing and instrumental string music during the worship hour.

Sunday, March 18, is designated Youth Sunday. Miss Becky Jo Sumner of Ahoskie, NC, will be the visiting speaker. Her subject will be, "The Family and Church Building a Winning Life." Miss Sumner is past youth chairman of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention. The Ahoskie native is employed in special education activity in Hertford County Public Schools. The young people of the church, under the direction of Richard Holmes, youth minister of the church, will provide special singing and lead the worship service.

Sunday, March 25, is "Biblical Education, Ministry and Service Sunday." Dr. W. B. Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the visiting minister. He will address the appropriate subject of "Biblical Understanding,

Ministry and Service With Enriching Rewards."

During March, the teen and college-age departments will meet together each Sunday during the Sunday School hour. They will be engaged in a four-Sunday study series on "Teens in Crisis Relationships." The series covers the critical development of their most important relationships: those with parents, friends, the opposite sex, self, God and the world." The series gives them survival tools to develop healthy relationships. The series is published by Priority I Publishing of Dallas, Texas, and is expected to be used by more than a million teens and parents in 1990.

On Sunday, March 4, at ten, in the early Sunday School assembly, new church baptismal robes will be modeled and dedicated. The robes were given and will be dedicated in memory of Henry J. Cook, a former church official of long standing who was thought of as the "Daddy of the Church."

On Sunday, March 11, at 5 p.m., the Intermediate Adult and Young Adult Departments of the Sunday School will host a senior citizens banquet for the "Get Together Club" and all the senior citizens connected with the church congregation. During the evening, a spiritual and gospel music program will be given by the Heavenly Echoes, a gospel quartet of Pikeville, NC. At six, a banquet of chicken and barbecue will be served to all, with the senior citizens as special guests.

Other special activities will be sponsored each Wednesday during the "Praise, Prayer and Bible Study Hour" at 7:30 p.m.

According to the pastor of Northeast Church, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, this is the third year the Mount Olive church has used the whole month of March in special enrichment and growth activity.

The public is invited to attend and participate in the special ac-

tivities. Northeast Church is located $\frac{3}{4}$ mile outside of Mount Olive, northeast of the city, on Northeast Church Road, as it intersects with the Indian Springs Road.

BETHEL CHURCH HOLDS BANQUET



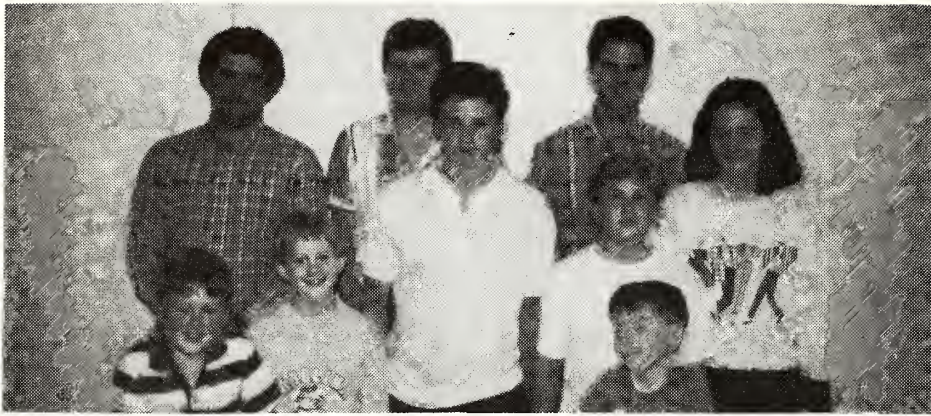
Mrs. Lois Parker Massengill

The annual Valentine Sweetheart Banquet was held in the fellowship hall of Bethel Church, Four Oaks, on February 14. The hall was beautifully decorated in a Valentine motif by Mrs. Carolyn Jones and Mrs. Floy Mae Allen. The banquet was sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary and the Layman's League of the church.

A meal, catered by Holt Lake Bar-b-cue, was enjoyed by all. Then a program under the direction of the Rev. and Mrs. Emmitt E. Jones was enjoyed very much. Mr. Jones conducted the devotional, 1 Corinthians 13. The program was made up of a Bible-based quiz and other questions and contests. Appropriate Valentine prizes were given to winners in all contests and quizzes.

Mrs. Jessie Narron, 85 years old, was recognized as the oldest person present. She received an arm bouquet of red roses. The highlight of the evening was when Mrs. Lois Parker Massengill was crowned as Bethel's Sweetheart Queen for 1990 by Mrs. Carolyn Jones. She received an arm bouquet of yellow roses. Each lady present received a red carnation bud vase as she left the banquet.

NINE BAPTIZED



January 28 was a special day for the Rev. Wayne Hargrove and the members of Owen's Chapel Church. Nine new converts were baptized in the evening service.

Pictured left to right: Dale Moore, Mike Yancey, Shane Corbett, Rusty Jones, Jonathan Hill, Bryan Walston, Ty Barnes, Owen Cud-dington, Lisa Harrell.

EASTERN WOMEN TO MEET

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet on March 22 at Wintergreen Church. The church is located at 454 Loop Road in Cove City.



THANKSGIVING IN PLARIDEL

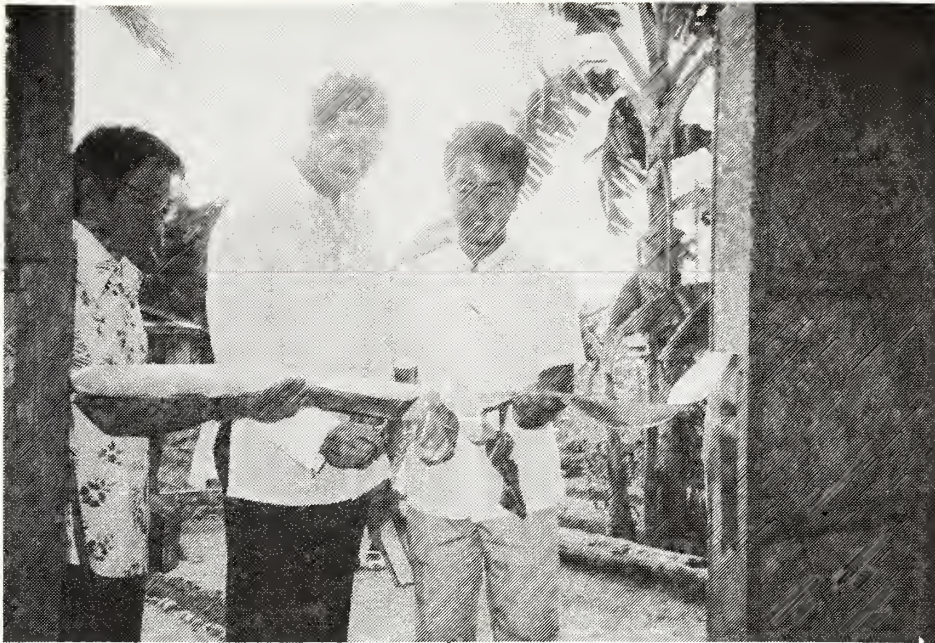
by Joanna Magarce

On December 17, 1989, God's faithfulness shone on the Free Will Baptist congregation of Plaridel. The work was started by Brother Rodolfo Precinillo on July 2, 1988. They held their Sunday School and worship service at the house of the Napila family. They dreamed of having a building where they could gather for worship. The work continued growing under the direction of Bible woman Joanna Magarce and Palawan Bible Student Mercy Amoto; and the building was started in May 1989.

God's abundant provisions were always available until their dreams came true on December 17, 1989. The church building was dedicated to the Lord and all members, Bible study groups, and people of the neighborhood attended and witnessed this dedication. The Rev. Paul Grubbs, Pastor Dutch Manzano, and Brother Rogelio Napila cut the ribbon. After the cutting of the ribbon, the congregation entered the church building and started our thanksgiving service, with Pastor Dutch Manzano as our speaker. The young people's group rendered a song entitled "O Magnify the Lord" and our visitors from PBC rendered a song, "Give Thanks," while the congregation gave their birthday and thanksgiving offerings.

After the service, we had a child dedication and baptism. Our officiating minister was the Rev. Paul Grubbs. Two children were dedicated and 8 souls committed their lives to Christ and followed the ordinance of baptism.

The women in the church provided a good lunch and in the afternoon we proceeded with our Christmas party. We had parlor games, musical contests, and exchanged gifts. Our activities were done successfully and everybody enjoyed them.



"One thing I bear in mind, that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us" (Philippians 4:13). He helps us, if only we rely on Him and faithfully hold on to His promises.

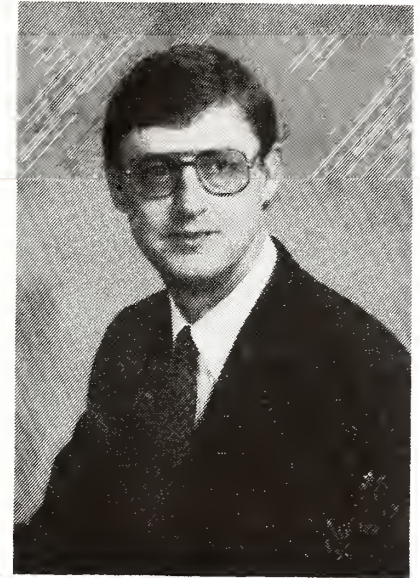
IT IS TRULY MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE!



Dyanne Massey

The congregation of Haymount Church, of Fayetteville, NC, received a tremendous blessing when they recently presented Dyanne Massey a new Dodge van fully equipped with a handicap lift. Dyanne is 25 years old and has been a member of Haymount Church since its beginning. She is very active in all phases of the church's activities and is a blessing to everyone whose life she touches.

**CHILDREN'S HOME
DIRECTOR ELECTED
PRESIDENT ELECT**



Bobby R. Taylor

During the annual business meeting of the North Carolina Child Care Association, Bobby R. Taylor, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, was elected to serve as President Elect of the Association. The Association represents child-care agencies across the state holding membership. The NCCCA membership unites their efforts to improve the services and care for children, to improve the skills of child-care professionals, to speak cooperatively regarding child welfare issues, and to develop material and human resources necessary to provide quality services.

**ENDOWMENTS ESTABLISHED
AT MOC**

Mount Olive College has announced the establishment of two scholarship endowments at the College. An endowment is a permanent fund in which the principal is invested and the earnings are used to advance the educational purposes of the College. It becomes "an investment that lives" by providing a perpetual means of support.

(Turn the Page)



Dora Thompson Bunn

Dora Thompson Bunn Scholarship Endowment

The "Dora Thompson Bunn Scholarship Endowment" was established in memory of Mrs. Bunn by her husband, Roney B. Bunn Jr., and their three children.

Prior to her extended illness, Mrs. Bunn was an active member of Marsh Swamp Church in Wilson County for more than 25 years. She had served as president of the local woman's auxiliary and as a nursery Sunday School teacher for more than 15 years. A strong supporter of Christian education, Mrs. Bunn served several years as local church chairman for the annual Mount Olive College dinners.

Their oldest son, Roney Bryant III attended MOC and graduated in 1987 with honors. Ricky Thompson, second oldest, plans to attend MOC this fall. Their daughter, Sandy Doreen, is a sophomore at James B. Hunt Jr. High School.

At the time of his retirement, Mr. Bunn was manager of the External Audit Branch of the North Carolina Department of Transportation. At Marsh Swamp Church, he has served as treasurer for 10 years, Sunday School superintendent for 6 years and is a member of the Board of Deacons and chairman of the



Members of Free Union Church, in Nash County, established an endowment at Mount Olive College in honor of the Rev. Lester and Nancy Duncan. Pictured is Dr. W. Burkette Raper presenting a certificate to the Duncans.

planning board. He served 8 years on the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home and is past president of his local Layman's League. Currently, he serves on the State Layman's League Board.

Mrs. Bunn was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Thompson of Rains Cross Roads Church in Johnston County. She died in October 1988.

Priority for scholarships will be given to students who are preparing for service in the Christian ministry.

Nancy B. and Lester Duncan Scholarship Endowment

To express their love and appreciation, members of the Free Union Church in Nash County have established the "Nancy B. and Lester Duncan Scholarship Endowment" in honor of the couple's more than 24 years of service to the church.

Mr. Duncan began preaching at his home church of Free Union on June 20, 1965. During their years at the church, the Duncans have witnessed the construction of a church fellowship building, two outside shelters, landscaping of the church grounds and a growing

membership which now stands at 113.

When the endowment was announced, a church member stated, "We really have been blessed at Free Union to have two such wonderful people as Nancy and Lester Duncan to lead and guide us for the last twenty-four years."

Scholarships from the endowment will be awarded as determined by the College.

LILY TONG CHOU TO PRESENT CONCERT AT MOC

Mount Olive College will present Lily Tong Chou in a piano concert on Tuesday, March 20, at 8 p.m., in the Downtown Auditorium. Her performance will include compositions by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Liszt.

Ms. Chou was born in Shanghai, China, and grew up in Hong Kong. She began piano at the age of 5. She holds a B.A. from Bob Jones University, an M.S. from Julliard, and a D.M.A. in piano performance from the University of Southern California. She has taught at Nyack College in New York, Silliman University in the Philippines, and Soochow and

Tunghai Universities in Taiwan. Currently, she is on the faculty of the College of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City.

In addition to her teaching career, Ms. Chou pursues an active concert career. She has toured China three times and has given City Hall recitals in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Manila. Her interest in chamber music, led to performances with the famous Ciompi Quartet of Duke University and an invitation to participate in the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Competition in Moscow.

There is no admission charge for the concert and the public is invited to attend.



Lily Tong Chou

MOC CONCERT CHOIR TO PERFORM

Four Free Will Baptist Churches will host Sunday performances by the Mount Olive College Concert Choir during March and April. The Choir's program will include hymns, spirituals, and patriotic numbers. Following are the dates, churches and times.

March 4	Reedy Branch, Winterville	6:30 p.m.
March 18	Marsh Swamp, Rock Ridge	7:00 p.m.
March 25	Saint Mary's, New Bern	7:30 p.m.
April 1	Lee's Chapel, Dunn	7:00 p.m.

The Mount Olive Concert Choir performs throughout the year at various College functions, and also conducts spring tours of area high schools. Membership is open to anyone, with no auditions required.

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

Tuesday, March 6 11 a.m. Rodgers Chapel	Women's History Lecture "North Carolina Women's History Project" Lecture by Elizabeth F. Buford from the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
Tuesday, March 13 11 a.m. College Hall	Lecture Guy Griswold, Project Engineer North Carolina Ethanol Ltd.
Tuesday, March 20 8 p.m. Downtown Auditorium	Piano Concert Lily Tong Chou
Thursday, March 29 7:30 p.m. Downtown Auditorium	Opera "Don Pasquale" in modern English version
Tuesday, April 10 11 a.m. Rodgers Chapel	Easter Convocation Dr. W. Burkette Raper
Tuesday, April 10 8 p.m. Downtown Auditorium	Spring Concert Mount Olive College Singers
Tuesday, April 24 8 p.m. Downtown Auditorium	Spring Concert Mount Olive College Concert Choir

Join Us For Our FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

MAY 12, 1990

70 **SEVENTY** 70

YEARS OF CHRISTIAN
MINISTRY IN CHILD CARE

Free Will Baptist Children's Home

Be Our Guest for Lunch	12:00
Founder's Day Service	1:00
Open House & Fellowship	2:00

BOARD OF
FOREIGN MISSIONS



March Is Foreign Missions Month

News

The new treasurer of Camp Vandemere is Franklin L. Baggett Jr. His address is Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, NC 27810. All future contributions are to go to this address.

PEACE CHURCH MAKES CONTRIBUTION

On Sunday evening, February 11, the director of Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes visited with Peace Church, Pinetops. The Rev. Carroll Bradbury, pastor, and Deacon Chairman, George Wooten, invited us to the service. After sharing with the congregation briefly the ministry of Retirement Homes, they presented a check in the amount of \$300.07. We appreciate the prayer and gift support received from Brother Bradbury and his congregation.



Carroll Bradbury, George Wooten, and Edith Jones, secretary of Adult Sunday School Class.

RETIREMENT HOMES DIRECTOR VISITS FIRST CHURCH, WILLIAMSTON



The Rev. Walter J. Sutton visited with First Church, Williamston, last December and shared information about Retirement Homes with the congregation. The pastor, the Rev. James Corbett, requested that members receive the coin folders to be filled with quarters and taken to Retirement Homes office in January 1990.

Pictured here is Brother Corbett presenting \$175 to Retirement Homes Director the Rev. Walter Sutton. We appreciate the prayer and gift support received from the pastor and his congregation.

CENTRAL DISTRICT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP
Elm Grove Church
March 17
9 a.m. Registration

THE REV. AND MRS. HAROLD JONES VISIT INDIA

by Dr. E. M. Lall

At the very outset, the Free Will Baptists in India are so thankful to God for enabling the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Jones, our director-treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, to visit with us in October/November 1989. We are grateful to them for undertaking the risk and exertion of such a long trip, specially when insecurity prevails in this part of the world. They are brave people of great determination, carrying the banner of the Cross in countries like India, Philippines and Mexico.

It would not be out of place to report that the church in India has grown largely under the leadership of Mr. Jones. The Free Will Baptist Church in India is not the church it was before 1982. It is coming up as a major evangelizing church in Northern India. At the same time, we must say that the Lord has blessed us plentifully and is blessing us each day in our church work, as the reports that keep pouring in indicate.

The Joneses arrived in Delhi at midnight but left again at daybreak on October 28. After having a little rest, they proceeded to the Sat Tal convention and reached there by dinner time. They were fully involved in the convention activities, from the next morning until it was over.

They visited Shekupura School to see the building which had been constructed since Mr. Jones last visited this school in 1987. He also inspected Kalyanpur School, which has been built since 1987. It is an open air school. In the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Jones were accorded a warm welcome by four circuits around Bareilly who joined together at the Christ Church, which has been blessed to us. They were received in the hearts of the people and it was a real unique event. One layman of

our church served free cups of tea to all in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and the church gave a tasty Indian lunch in their honor. They also visited Asafpur School, which is a muddy structure to explore. The possibility exists that a brick construction can be built there. The same day, he preached at Bilsi open-air meeting at the market site, near the public bus station. It was a joy that Mrs. Jones visited us with him and addressed every school. It was such a blessing to have her speak with our people who appeared so crazy to hear her.

On November 3, they attended two church meetings at Ahladpur and Tondalpur and preached at both. Our people had a wonderful fellowship with them. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jones were fed up with lunch, dinner and tea entertainments everywhere, but kept up the joy of the people who served them. They had an opportunity of seeing two more schools at Hatsa, which is an open-air school. It has a large number enrollment of 225, especially good since it started last year. They also visited Fathepur School to examine with a purpose the effectiveness of barbed-wire fencing of our schools at several places (in order to protect possession of the vacant land).



They visited the "Taj Mahal" and attended a church meeting at Agra. We have been blessed with a new church organized in the city of Taj Mahal, with a congregation of 54 people under the ministerial charge of the Rev. Jyoti Prakash.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones received warm welcomes at all the places they visited. They were so cordially received in the hearts of our people, who were at some places so excited to do every thing possible to show them that they love them. Similar was the case with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jones, who assured our people of the great Christian love they carry for them; and at a few places, their hearts nearly burst. He dedicated 17 children in various congregations during his visit with us.

Though it was Mr. Jones' fourth trip to India, it was Mrs. Jones' first trip.





MARCH IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

Foreign Missions Telethon Sunday Will Be

March 25, 1990

THEME:

PEOPLE NEED THE LORD

Telethon Goal 1990: A total of \$80,000 + in gifts on that Sunday. This can easily be reached if every church and individual will give the highest amount you have given to the Telethon in the past two years.

Call in your special offering between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Dial: 919-746-4963 or 746-6128.

YOUR CALL IS VITALLY IMPORTANT.

Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions

March 25, 1990

REVIVAL COMES FROM HEART DESIRE TRANSLATED INTO
FERVENT PRAYER.

REVIVAL LEADS TO COMPASSION FOR LOST
PEOPLE AND INCREASED EFFORT IN WORLD MISSIONS.

PRAYER GOAL 1990: All churches joining together in united prayer for revival and world missions during the Morning Worship Hour on March 25, 1990.

OUR PRAYER LIFE IS THE MIRROR
OF OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE.
LET'S MAKE THE 1990 s
THE DECADE OF REVIVAL.

BOARD OF
FOREIGN MISSIONS

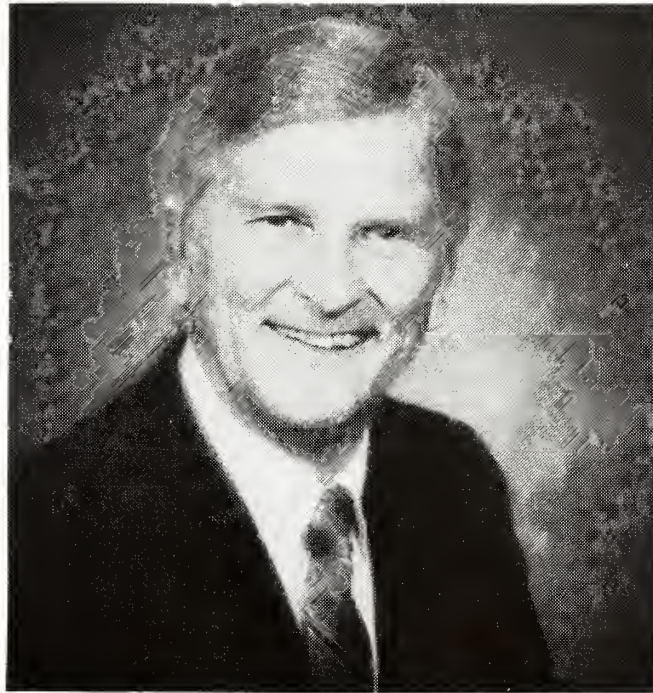


P.O. Box 39
Ayden, N.C. 28513-0039
Phone: 919-746-4963



ANNUAL WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by Board of Foreign Missions



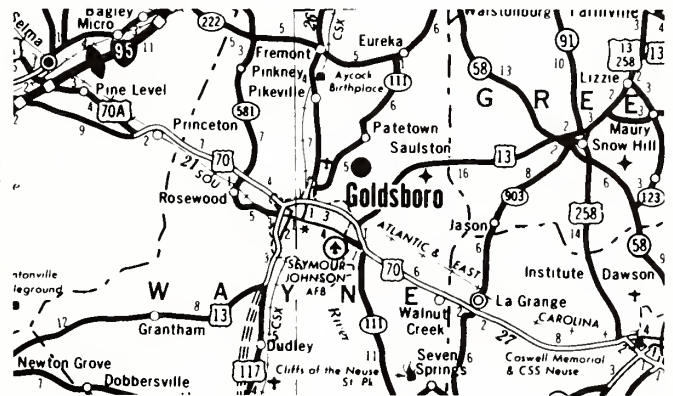
Bill Harding, Speaker

Bill serves as minister-at-large for SIM-U.S.A. He served as a missionary to Ethiopia for twelve years in urban and rural ministries. Mr. Harding is a native of Charlotte, NC. He attended the Citadel and was graduated from Columbia Bible College. He did further studies at Wheaton Graduate School. Bill and his wife, Elaine, are parents of five children. Bill is a frequent speaker on college and seminary campuses as well as mission conferences across America.

Date: March 16, 1990

Place: Stoney Creek FWB Church
Highway 111, four miles north of
Goldsboro; 6 miles from Highway 222
south. (See map.)

Time: 3:00 P.M. Opening Session
4:00 P.M. Second Session
5:00 P.M. Meal Break
7:30 P.M. Mission Rally



Special Feature: Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet—6 P.M., Stoney Creek Church

The Ministerial Association will hold its Annual Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet in connection with the Missions Conference. This meal is for pastors and wives. The program will be the World Missions Rally. We look forward to seeing a large number of our ministers and their wives at this year's banquet. (Pre-registration material mailed.)

This Conference will feature some excellent music in each session. Your attendance will make this Conference complete. Come and bring a large number from your church.



Dear Pastor,

The Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet, sponsored by the Ministerial Association, will be held this year on March 16 at 6 p.m. at Stoney Creek Church. The church is located on Highway 111, four miles north of Goldsboro, near Patetown. The Banquet will be catered by Wilber's Barbecue, at a cost of \$4 per person. The menu will consist of barbecued pork and chicken, slaw, string beans, hush puppies, banana pudding, tea and coffee.

This Banquet is for pastors and their wives. We need your pre-registration no later than March 7 in order to prepare to serve you. Please fill in the form below and return with your check, made payable to the North Carolina Ministerial Association.

The Banquet this year will be held in conjunction with the Annual World Missions Conference sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions. The Conference will begin at 3 p.m. The program for the Banquet will be the Mission Rally at 7:30 p.m. This will give you an opportunity to share in both events in one night. Please come be with us.

(Cut here and return this portion before March 7.)

MID-YEAR SPIRITUAL LIFE BANQUET
Sponsored by the N.C.F.W.B. Ministerial Association
March 16, 1990—6 P.M.
STONEY CREEK CHURCH

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Church serving _____ Conference _____
Number of people in my party _____
Check for \$ _____ enclosed, made payable to North Carolina Ministerial Association.

N.C.F.W.B. MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Box 39
AYDEN, NC 28513

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



1990 CRAGMONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Below you will find the schedule of conferences and the person to contact for registering.

MORNING STAR

April 20-22
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

June 11-16
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

June 18-21
Marvin Waters
2413 Brices Creek Road
New Bern, NC 28560

CHRISTIAN CADET

June 25-30
Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER (YFA)

July 2-7
Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER (AFC)

July 9-14
Doug Skinner
804 Cooper Street
Winterville, NC 28590

GENERAL YOUTH II

July 16-21
Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I

July 23-28
Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE

July 30—August 4
James Gurganus
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 6-11
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 15-18
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB I

October 19-21
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB II

October 26-28
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CORNERSTONE

November 23-25
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

SNOW HOUND

December 28-January 1
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

No doubt you have heard or read the theme developed by the military: "We need a few good men." There is a need at Cragmont for a few good people, men and women, to help with fund raising. We are interested in people who love Cragmont and who are interested in doing some volunteer fund raising. The concept works like this: A team of interested people will volunteer to go to our Free Will Baptist churches to present a program on Cragmont. The program will consist of a slide presentation and printed materials, and generally talking about the ministry of Cragmont. All materials will be provided, including slides, projector, etc. Our Cragmont office will schedule the church visits. Most churches are interested in having ministry presentations either Wednesday nights or Sunday nights, which would not keep you away from your church for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested in doing this kind of volunteer work for Cragmont, I would like to hear from you as soon as possible. You can write or call:

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704) 669-7677

MORNING STAR Spring Women's Mini Retreat

Cragmont Assembly,
Black Mountain, North Carolina
Friday, April 20—Sunday,
April 22, 1990
(The weekend after Easter)

Tentative Schedule

Friday, April 20, 1990
Saturday, April 21

8 p.m.—Opening Service
Morning—Bible Study and Music
Afternoon—Free for Your Own Adventures
Evening—Service
Morning Worship Service
11 a.m.—Homeward Bound

Sunday, April 22

Cost:

\$10 Registration
35 Balance Due on Arrival
\$45 Total

Includes 2 nights, 3 meals Saturday, 1 meal Sunday
If you have questions, please call:

Co-Directors: Dola Dudley, (919) 934-6160
Becky Jo Sumner, (919) 332-2772, or 332-6810

Mail Registration Fee and the form below to:

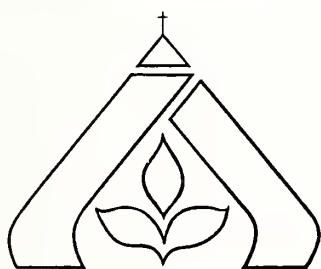
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

Registration for MORNING STAR

Name _____

Address _____

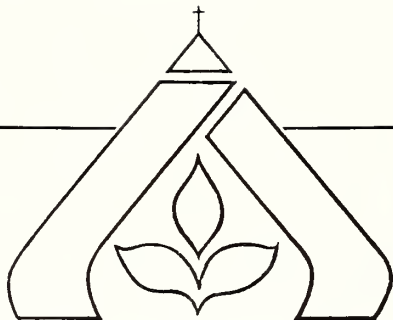
Phone _____



CAPE FEAR CHURCH RAISIN'

The weather was threatening, but spirits were not dampened when over 80 Free Will Baptists met to raise a church building in a single day. Some doubted; some said, "Well, maybe so"; and others commented, "It'll take a lot of doing." But Genesis Mission in Fayetteville now has a fellowship facility because many said, "We'll help!"

Shown here are several scenes from the church raisin' which was held in February. See the April issue of *The Free Will Baptist* for the details of this historic work.



YOUTH RESPOND TO TOUCHING LIVES FOR A LIFETIME

The Rev. David C. Hansley, executive director of the Home Missions and Evangelism Ministry, recently visited the Intermediate Sunday School Class of House of Prayer Church, Kernersville. Shown here are the members of the class (left to right), front row: Allen Casstevens, Paige Smith, Karen King, Dana Pinyan, Jeremy Castle; back row: Kim Castle, Shane Strickland, Jason Wright, Judy Wright (teacher), Jon-Paul Wright, and Tonya Mot-singer. The class participates in the ministry's Sowers Club.



The Rev. David C. Hansley and the Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard, pastor of House of Prayer Church.



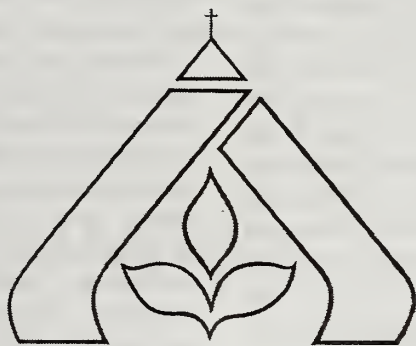
Sunday School Superintendent Roger Mot-singer and the Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard join the members of the class as the Rev. David C. Hansley presents them with a Sower's Club plaque.

SUTTON SHARES WITH HILLSIDE YOUTH



Front row: John Sowers, Amanda Buck, Kenneth Tyson, Joey Gaskins, Beverly Tyson; back row: Randy Tyson, Annie Tyson, Paige Lee, Christy Sowers, Theresa Sowers, Brenda Buck, Gaither Riley, Jimmy Sowers.

On Friday evening, February 2, Walter J. Sutton, director of the Retirement Homes ministry, was invited by Mr. and Mrs. Randy Tyson to share fellowship with the AFC members of Hillside Church, Grifton. After enjoying pizza and refreshments, the members pictured presented to Brother Sutton in behalf of Retirement Homes seven coin folders containing \$70 in quarters. The members had solicited and saved these in an effort to make January 1990 a great month for the Retirement Homes ministry. Retirement Homes expresses appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Tyson, the Rev. and Mrs. Jimmy Sowers, and each AFC member for their prayers and gift support, and for "caring" enough to give.



April is Home Missions and Evangelism Month.

Anyone having a Cragmont room key is asked to return it to the following address:

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- The average person currently watches television 24 hours per week and listens to radio an almost equal amount of time.
- The average American child with pay cable and/or a VCR in the home will enjoy 32,000 murders, 40,000 attempted murders and a quarter million total acts of violence by age 18.
- The average American will have viewed 90,000 drinking scenes on television before reaching the legal drinking age of 21.
- At current rates, the average person will never witness a real-life murder in his or her lifetime, but will see over 70,000 on entertainment TV.
- Since 1956, when TV first became truly violent, murder has increased 300% per capita, rape 500%, and assaults 600% per capita.
- Forty-one different cartoon series have been developed since 1982 to help sell different lines of war toys and a Robocop and a Nintendo cartoon series are on the way.
- Prime-time television is currently averaging nine acts of violence per hour and Hollywood movies 24 acts per hour.
- The average 8-year-old will view 4.5 hours of cartoons a week. This includes one hour of toy-based war cartoons and 800 30-second ads for war toys or the equivalent of nine days of classroom time devoted to exciting pro-war entertainment. (This has decreased 35-45% since 1985.)



NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman, General Secretary

A SORT OF "LULL"

Regarding regular meetings of conferences and conventions during January and February, there has been a sort of "lull." This, however, is not unusual, for this is the way Free Will Baptists are organized. The "busy season" for denominational workers and the truly involved lay persons is the spring and fall of each year. Beginning in March, the Woman's Auxiliary conferences and conventions will be meeting. January and February have had a few meetings of our ministry boards. Because of a bout with the flu, however, I have not been very active during the latter part of January and the first part of February.

THE TAX SEMINAR

On February 8, I attended the Tax Seminar which was held in Kinston, NC. This seminar is sponsored each year by the Free Will Baptist Ministers' Program. The Rev. Donald Fader is the director of this ministry. This was the first year that I have been able to attend. Much of the discussion at the seminar was focused on a Compensation Analysis relating to how ministers can improve their income tax situation. For more information regarding this matter, ministers may contact

Brother Fader here at the Headquarters.

The Ministers' Program conducted a survey last fall. The purpose of the survey was to determine the statistical make-up of our ministers. Eighty of our ministers responded to the survey. It revealed that the average age of our ministers is about 50 years of age and that the average years of experience is 23 years. The average total compensation is \$17,735. This survey also indicated that over 45% of our ministers are bi-vocational.

The Ministers' Program is planning to do a comparison of our ministers' income with several other denominations. This information will be forthcoming from Brother Fader. Certainly we commend the Ministers' Program board and its director for the work that is being done. Like all of our denominational ministries, greater support and participation are needed.

CHALLENGES FOR THE 1990s

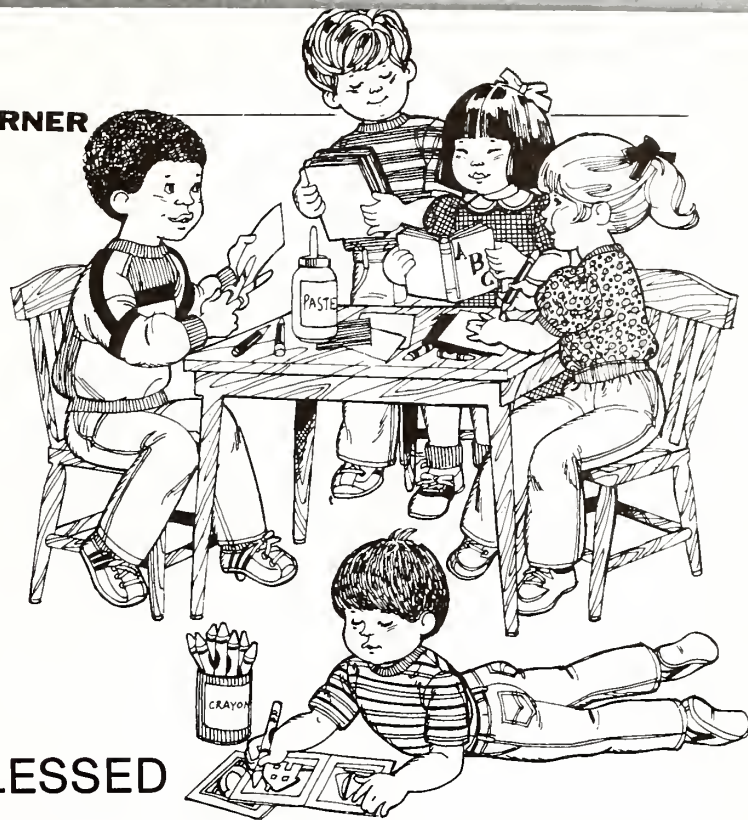
The January-February, 1990, issue of *Christian Herald* magazine carries a series of articles dealing with the challenges of the 1990s. The articles are printed in five different categories. The first one is "Evangelistic Challenges," written by Bill Bright. He states:

"Telling others about Christ should be the priority of each Christian." The second is entitled "Spiritual Challenges," by Richard J. Foster, in which he writes: "The wind of holiness is coming to the church." The third article is concerned with "Social Challenges," by Beverly LaHaye in which she states: "We need a church that's courageous, willing to stand for righteousness, and accept the knocks that will come." The fourth article deals with "Family Challenges" and is written by Gary Bauer. In this article he states: "The family must be restored. The most significant consequence of its disintegration may be the way we understand God." The last of the articles is written by Dr. James Kennedy concerning "Moral Challenges." Dr. Kennedy writes: "The question is: Whose morality is going to be legislated? It's going to be either God's or man's . . . One of the greatest challenges the church faces in the 1990s will be reversing the decline of morality. As a society, we have turned our backs on God's laws."

These five articles cover all aspects of whatever problems we are confronted with. If the church in America is to overcome them it must be willing to pay the price to meet the challenges of this decade. Some of our churches, ministries, and conferences have adopted themes for this new decade. Our State Convention is in the process of developing a theme for the '90s.

We certainly do not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future, and He has promised to be with us, "even to the end of the world." And, He has promised to give us the victory. The struggles are ever before us and so is our Saviour who will show us the way.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



BEING BLESSED

Matthew tells us that "Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people." Multitudes of people gathered around Jesus whenever He was near. Many came to be healed and others came just to hear and see this man they had heard so much about.

One day when He saw a great multitude of people, Jesus went up on a mountain in Galilee called the Mount of Olives. From this mountain, Jesus taught His disciples and others who gathered near in a famous sermon called "the Sermon on the Mount." The beginning of this sermon is called the Beatitudes. There are ten verses in this part of the sermon, nine of which begin with the word "blessed." You probably have learned these already, but do you still remember them? To check your memory, try to match the beginning of each verse with its ending. (Matthew 5:3-13 can help you.)

Blessed are the poor in spirit:

Blessed are they that mourn:

Blessed are the meek:

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst
after righteousness:

Blessed are the merciful:

Blessed are the pure in heart:

Blessed are the peacemakers:

Blessed are they which are persecuted for
righteousness' sake:

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and
persecute you,

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your
reward in heaven:

for so persecuted they the prophets which were
before you.

for they shall obtain mercy.

for they shall be called the children of God.

and shall say all manner of evil against you
falsely, for my sake.

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

for they shall be filled.

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

for they shall be comforted.

for they shall see God.

for they shall inherit the earth.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS HEAR CRIES OF BROKEN-HOME TEENS

Teens whose parents separate or divorce feel vulnerable, rootless. When homes are split, according to counselor James Hilt, Sunday School teachers and youth leaders must be prepared to hear and respond to four cries of broken-home teens.

1. *"If I were only good enough or responsible enough, Mom and Dad wouldn't have split."* Adult leaders need to show the teen that this is false guilt. The responsibility

for the separation or divorce rests squarely on the parents. The teen's guilt is counterfeit, guilt which God does not want him or her to suffer.

"If their false guilt is not resolved," cautions Hilt, author of *How to Have a Better Relationship with Anybody* (Moody), "teens may punish themselves consciously or unconsciously by doing drugs or alcohol, withdrawing, or even trying suicide to 'atone.'"

2. *"Please let me cry."* The multiple losses of a ruptured home cause a teen to grieve. Let him or her know that's healthy and it will take time. Teachers should encourage the grieving teen to draw support from them. This "venting," which the Psalmist repeatedly did with the Lord, helps release pain and aids in the "grief work" process.

3. *"I hate them."* The teen may fixate on all the harm and loss that has come to him or her and will replay the painful events as one would play records. This is natural for a while, but eventually, the needle must be taken off.

The teen needs to begin forgiving those who hurt him or her. This may be the most difficult thing the young person has ever done. God can give the power to accept and forgive each person toward whom he or she is bitter.

At the same time, the teen needs to see that accepting circumstances does not mean having to count the sources of trouble as good. The bitter disputes and severance of marriage are never good. Acceptance is not the same as approval.

4. *"I'm no good."* Often teens' self-esteem plummets. Caring Sunday School teachers can help raise it again. Find ways to affirm teens. Help them keep their heads above water emotionally, until feelings of God-given value and personhood begin to stir inside them once more.

"Statistically, the tragedies of separation and divorce may seem overwhelming," said Hilt. "But teachers and youth leaders can wonderfully touch some of the victims of this epidemic. And they will never forget your help."

David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 North Grove, Elgin, IL 60120.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

BIBLICAL SALVATION, THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL TESTIMONY



by the Rev. Walter Sutton

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief" (1 Timothy 1:15). "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11).

The history of our Bible and doctrinal statement of beliefs is both long and difficult. Greater appreciation for both comes when we take the time to acquaint ourselves more fully with the history of each. Let it be enough for us to say, the foundation upon which our Bible and doctrinal statement rests is the revelation of God, not *visions* and *dreams*, *oracles* or *prophecies*, or religious teachings of some "holy man" who lived since the first century.

All the books in the Bible were written and completed before the end of the first century. The New Testament books were not canonized until 397 A.D. at Carthage. It must have been the council's belief the *revelation of God* was complete. This is evidenced by the rules they followed in the canonization of each book.

There were several rules which established the standards each book had to meet in order to qualify for canonization. Three of these rules I mention here, they will sustain our position. (1) Each book had to have been written by a person who had been an "eyewitness," or a person who had been a "close acquaintance" of a person who had been an eyewitness to the human person of

Jesus Christ and His earthly ministry. Mark was not an apostle, but he was closely acquainted with both Peter and Paul. Titus and Timothy were not apostles, but they were sons of Paul, the apostle, in the gospel of Christ, who states categorically in Galatians 1:1, 20, "Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) . . . Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not." Luke was not an apostle, but he knew Paul, who had seen Jesus and heard His voice in shekinah glory on the Damascus road. Moreover, he had seen Jesus in a beatific vision, described in 2 Corinthians 12. He was caught up into the third heaven, paradise where Jesus communicated to him by revelation the gospel of Christ. In Paul's writings, we are brought to a right understanding of our Christian commission and methods we are to follow in carrying the gospel of Christ to the lost at home and abroad to-day.

(2) Each book upon completion had to be circulated through the Christian community of believers. These books were read before each assembly and accepted as the Word of God to be both believed and practiced. They were assured by the divine process of revelation and inspiration (guidance) the truth of God (all the truth) was duly recorded by the writers. (3) They had to contain the record of the life and ministry of Jesus, the apostle's doctrine and used throughout the Christian community beyond the first century.

So, what does this say to us today? The Bible we use today has the *complete revelation* of God. All the knowledge of God is there. All that God has to say to any generation is in the Bible. The plan and purpose of God for the universe, its planets, including the earth and its inhabitants, are recorded in our Bible. *There are no new oracles, visions, dreams, revelations, prophecies being given today.* New biblical truth may come through illumination today, but that truth was revealed by God to the writers of Scripture before the first century ended. The Bible taught the roundness of the earth long before two Spanish navigators, Christopher Columbus and Ferdinand Magellan, dared to sail the seas to America and around the world. Their contribution to colonizing remote parts of the world and opening up trade routes between nations have been enormous. The Bible taught that the blood circulated throughout the human body three or four thousand years before the notable English physician, William Harvey, made his discovery

(Turn the Page)

sometime in the latter part of the fifteenth century or early sixteenth century A.D.

Think now with me of the relevency of what is written here. The knowledge so crucial to developing the earth to full potential for its inhabitants and to medical comfort and well-being of people was unknown to man because he would not or did not read and study his Bible. We are no different today. The Bible has the answers for all the ills that burden us. We are made to believe the Legislature in Raleigh; the Congress in Washington, DC; and the United Nations in New York state can legislate these with satisfaction to all. To believe this is to get further from the truth.

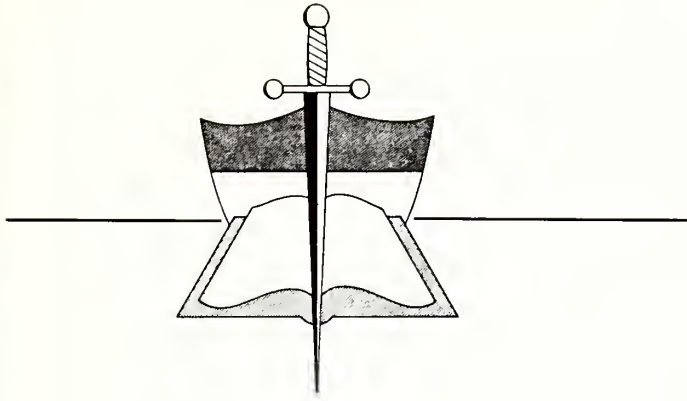
Our *articles of belief* were formulated and organized by faithful brethren two or three hundred years ago—first in England and later in America. These brethren, like the council at Carthage and many today, believed the Bible is the complete revelation of God. Consequently, our beliefs are founded upon Scripture—not dreams and visions and prophecies, or new revelations given them in some dark remote place in the world. These articles of beliefs are *the result of their study of the Scripture*. It is increasingly necessary we continue our study of the Scriptures and teach them to our children. By doing this we may be assured the next generation will know the truth as we know it.

Suppose I ask the average person who reads these lines, "Is your Bible lost?" What would his answer be? He would undoubtedly say, "No, my Bible is not lost, I know exactly where it is," and then a mental picture would flash back in his mind. He would see where he last left it. Unfortunately, the average man would see his Bible lying on a dusty shelf, hidden in an unused bookcase, or buried at the bottom of a trunk. Such a person may know where his Bible is, but one thing is sure, it is a "lost book" to him. The Bible is lost to anyone who is not reading it, studying it and practicing it regularly. I must not forget to say, "using it." "Using it rightly." A Bible lying in plain sight on a living room table may be as much lost as one buried at the bottom of a trunk. A person might see his Bible every day and yet not open it for study months at a time. Such a Bible is lost to its owner. Its treasures are lost. Almost every home I know has a Bible. Almost every believer I know has a Bible. Those who actually read and study it are comparatively few. Their discussion regarding most biblical subjects reflects how little reading and actual study they have with their Bible. Yes sir, my friend, the Bible is a lost book for many. How sad! How sad it is! But happy and wise the person will be who reads and studies his Bible. Just in the last three hundred years or more the

Bible has become a "people's possession." Before then, the church controlled the possession of the Scriptures. The people only knew what was taught them by the church. They had no way of knowing if what they were being taught was truth. Today, conditions are almost reversed. We all have Bibles equipped with helps to better our understanding. Still there are many whose understanding will not square with Scripture. The one true way of salvation is taught in the Bible.

The salient facts of Scripture are: salvation is of the Lord. Consider these Scriptures: "But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that what I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD" (Jonah 2:9). "Salvation belongeth unto the LORD; thy blessing is upon thy people" (Psalm 3:8). "But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: God is their strength in the time of trouble" (Psalm 37:35). "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and hold me with a willing spirit" (Psalm 51:12). The primary meaning of these Scriptures is, the salvation spoken of, whether deliverance from physical danger or restoration to a right relationship in the theocratic kingdom with Jehovah, is of the Lord.

When the fullness of time was come, when the world was ready socially, economically, politically, and religiously, Jesus was born in Bethlehem. The faithful ones in Israel, though they were few, were expecting their Messiah. God dispatched heavenly messengers who explained to some, where and when the arrival of the Messiah would occur. Two of the faithful ones were old and stricken with years. They often visited the temple. When Joseph and Mary visited the temple and presented their newborn Son (Jesus) for dedication, Simeon and Anna recognized Him as the long promised Jewish Messiah. Wonderment filled the hearts of both Joseph and Mary when they heard the words these two people spoke on behalf of their baby. Luke describes this scene in the temple with beautiful and convincing words. "And behold there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law. Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God and said, Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word; For my eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of the people; a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel" (Luke 2:25-32).



Luke continues his narrative. "And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem" (Luke 2:36-38).

The witnesses of these saintly Jewish adults whose life revolved around service and prayer in the temple, believed when the Messiah came bringing redemption to Israel, He would begin in the temple. When they saw Jesus in the arms of Mary, their hearts rejoiced. Israel's Messiah had come at last. They had seen Him. That was enough. God had fulfilled His promise and they were satisfied and ready to depart this world in peace. They had seen the *salvation of the Lord*. The redemption of Israel was nigh.

The focal point of biblical salvation is centered at Calvary. Here the Cross stood. Christ died upon it. His blood was shed. Here the world of men before the Cross and those afterwards may be truly reconciled to Jehovah. Under the Old Testament provision, the one who had sinned was himself fully forgiven and released. The Christological content of the sacrifice offered was the ground of any and all forgiveness. God forgave and restored where sin was *covered* by the animal sacrifice. The sin was never in actuality *taken away*. The true basis upon which forgiveness could ever be granted was the intention on God's part to take the sin later He had forgiven and deal with it righteously and effectively through the death of Christ at Calvary. Christ's death took away the sins of the world and makes possible its reconciliation through the preaching of the gospel of Christ.

The grand news of the gospel of Christ since the Acts transition is the world of sinners have been reconciled to God. The gospel declares the accomplishment of Christ for all men. They have already been forgiven. The object of the gospel is to make them aware of this forgiveness and be reconciled to God through faith in Christ. The gospel call is extended to all without favor or respect of persons. It is not the will of God that any should fail to receive *His salvation*. Should any fail, the fault will be wholly their own. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

There are two sides to biblical salvation. We will consider the divine side first. Three elements are evident and indispensable. Grace, blood and holiness establish the principal and premise of divine salvation. Only grace could provide it. Only blood could purchase it. Only a sinless sacrifice could satisfy and reconcile lost men to God. Grace makes salvation doxological. The divine purpose in biblical salvation is to redeem the sinner to the *praise and glory* of God. "That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:7). Divine salvation could have originated only in the councils of Jehovah. No one but God would grant salvation to worthless, sinful sinners on the basis of His grace alone. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

God has provided in Christ for sinners a perfect salvation that is *finished* and *complete*. In John 19:30, the Lord Jesus cried while upon the Cross, "It is finished." He was referring to His work of procuring for lost sinners a salvation from sin through the blood of His Cross. I think maybe when John was recording the closing moments of Jesus' life upon the Cross, he wanted to communicate to all who would read his lines here, "the work of God in Christ providing salvation was finished and forever done." *It stands finished*. Jesus upon His Resurrection and Ascension *sat down* at the right hand of His Father's throne. Jesus' work in procuring salvation was finished and *He sat down*. So, the divine side of our salvation is what God through Christ had done. It is forever finished and complete. Neither God, nor angel, nor man can change it. Man can only accept what God has done. This brings us to the human side of salvation.

Biblical salvation divinely *thought* and *wrought* by God through Jesus, from the vantage point of man is always within the realm of the

(Turn the Page)

human will. Three elements are indispensable—faith, worship and works. Faith gives assurance to the believing sinner his sins are forgiven. The believer's worship is an expression of his faith toward God. His works are visible evidence of the presence of faith. Faith is knowledge imparted when the believer hears the Bible taught or preached or studied privately. Worship is an awareness of God's presence. Works are the tangible life of faith making beautiful the teaching of Christ. Faith, worship, and works are the sum and substance of the human side of salvation.

The preaching of the gospel of Christ awakens the sinner to his need of salvation. Those who hear and respond favorably are truly regenerated. The Holy Spirit acting upon what God has done to provide salvation coupled with the willful appropriation of the believing sinner's faith in Christ, regenerates and positions the believing one into the body of Christ. At this point the Holy Spirit takes up residence in the heart of the newly regenerated person. Then and there begins the enablement of the Holy Spirit to make God's salvation work successfully in the life of the believer.

It was in the summer of 1952 that a Baptist evangelist came to Farmville, North Carolina, and erected a tent at the west end of Wilson Street. Crowds of people attended the meetings nightly and heard him preach the gospel of Christ. Preachers and people from many churches cooperated with him including Free Will Baptists. There were many sinners converted and Christians drawn closer to the Lord. It was one Wednesday evening in July, I had worked in the tobacco field that day; I passed the tent headed downtown to the theater. For some reason I turned around and instantly I decided to attend the revival. I had been there two or three nights before already. I located myself about midway and there I listened to the gospel spoken by this Baptist evangelist—Brother Paul H. Black. I responded to the gospel call. Kneeling at the altar, Brother L. B. Manning instructed me in the way of salvation and helped me pray my prayer of acceptance of Jesus as my Saviour. Other preachers there encouraged me to continue in the Lord. I walked off that place that night knowing that God had changed my heart, with faith He would help me change my life. From that night to this day that experience has been my testimony. It will forever remain my testimony. I have never become tired of reflecting upon it or telling it to others. The words of a song I used to sing describe in a real way my conversion experience. I never knew who wrote these words. They came into my possession shortly after my

The Lord gave me beauty of ashes
And for sorrow He gave to me joy
I was sad and oppressed
He exchanged it for rest
And a peace the world can't destroy.
I was poor and had nothing worth having
Disappointment had saddened my life
Now I'm rich as can be, since He traded with me
Abundance of peace for my strife.

I had hate in my heart but exchanged it
For the wonderful gift of God's love
Where it went I don't know, but I sure felt it go
When my heart was filled with His love
I was restless but He made me quiet
When I fully surrendered my all
He gave me courage for my fear
Gave me smiles for my tears

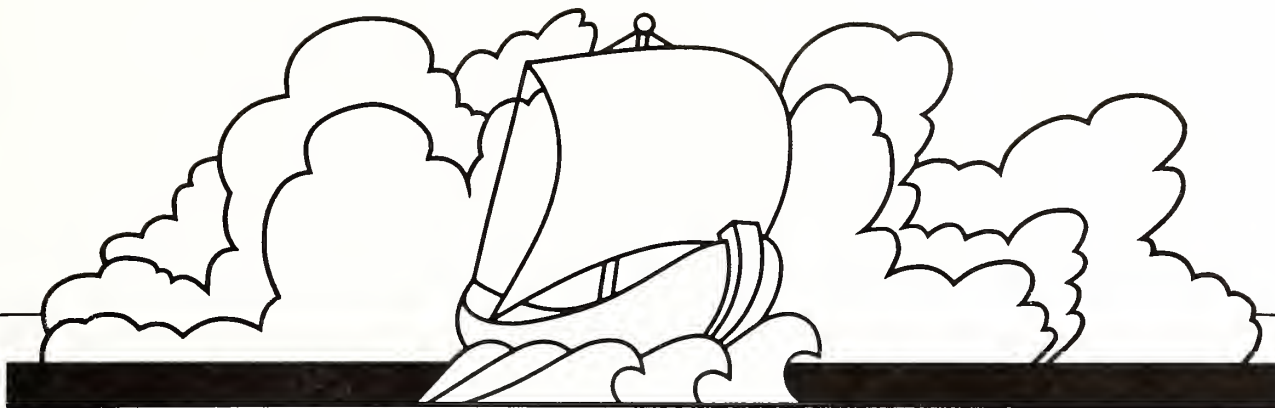
As He lovingly heard when I called.
I traded my sins for salvation
And I traded my load for relief
I got peace for my condemnation
And the joy of my Lord for my grief
I traded a life that was wasted
For a temple to dwell in God made
And I got so much more, than I had before
Well, I sure got the best of the trade.

conversion and I sang them when I first testified to my personal salvation in Christ.

I have always been amazed by the realness of my conversion experience. So sinful, so unworthy, yet Jesus loved me and made me His upon my acceptance of Him as the Son of God and my personal Saviour.

Paul declares in our text that he was chiefest of sinners. I'm only a whit behind him. My amazement is summed up in the words of Paul to the church at Corinth. "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).

It is encouraging to me to know, *God hath chosen the weak.*



THE MIRACLE OF THE DRAW OF FISHES

by the Rev. A. B. Bryan

Luke 5:1-11; Matthew 4:18-22;
Mark 1:16-20; John 1:35-43

If experiences sanctify places and things, then Peter's ordinary boat became his most precious possession, because the Lord made that boat His pulpit from which He uttered sublime truths and in which He displayed His glorious supernatural power. On that memorable morning, Peter was out on the same lake, in the same boat, handling the same nets as the fruitless night before, but what a mighty difference obedience to Christ produced! A bountiful harvest of the sea transformed everything for Peter.

Luke, the evangelist in his classical style, is the only one to describe the Sea of Galilee as "the Lake of Gennesaret" (the Greek for the Hebrew word "Chinnereth"). He, alone, is the one who records the striking miracle which led to the fuller discipleship of Peter and his partners. This miracle has many points in common with other

(Turn the Page)

accounts of the specific calling of other disciples. We question whether they all refer to the same event. In comparing the accounts of the call of Christ's first disciples, it would seem as if they are giving varying aspects of such a call. This incident presents itself from different points of view to different witnesses. Several witnesses brought out different moments of the same event. We should be grateful that we can regard the act, which is significant, from many sides.

Galilee had been prophesied by Isaiah as a chief scene of the activities of the Messiah (9:1-2). ". . . the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined." In that He had come, He taught the people who pressed upon Him to hear the Word of God, standing in the boat borrowed from Peter. As He taught He turned from the crowd and addressed Himself to the man who owned the boat, who was to learn much more from Christ's works than the people had from His words. Addressing the master of the little craft, Jesus said, "Launch out into the deep, and let down your net for a draught."

Peter's reply was characteristic of a big fisherman. "Master, we have toiled all night, and have taken nothing." Luke is the one, and always the one who spoke of Jesus as *master*. He never used *rabbi*, as John does. After a night of exhausting toil, Peter might have answered Jesus, "Now, Master, I am a fisherman and know all about the ways of fish. You are a carpenter. Night is the time to fish, not the morning hour when the sun is shining upon and piercing the water." But somehow the command of Jesus arrested Peter, who immediately replied, "Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net." You will note Peter's change from the plural to the singular. Jesus said *nets*, Peter replied *net*. It was as if he said to himself, "I'll obey His command, although I know the result will be as futile as the past night. I'll let down one net anyhow." Was this a matter of partial obedience? Was Peter ignorant of the power of the Lord to command even the fish of the sea when he said, ". . . at thy word?" With the word of such a King, there was power.

The result of the lowered net was staggering. There was such an immense draught, straining the capacity of the net that Peter had to seek the help of his fishing partners in the other boat to help him bring the haul to shore. The miracle here consisted in the great shoal of fish being alongside of Peter's boat at the precise moment Jesus said, "Let down your net." There is no miracle in discovering a

shoal of fish in migration. Their way as they pass through the sea, may be marvelous, but certainly not miraculous. "Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas" (Psalm 8:6, 8). The inhabitants of the sea are just as obedient to Christ's control as other creatures He made, by his omniscience. He knew where the fish were in the sea, although Peter could not catch them the night before, by His power Jesus brought that shoal of fish to that particular spot at the particular time. The natural was lifted into the domain of the miraculous by the manner in which it was timed, and the end which it was made to serve.

Christ is the true Sea-Lord, as well as the Land-Lord. He is the Lord of Heaven, earth and sea, the sovereign ruler of all things. He could have brought 10,000 fish to the shore without them getting into the net, but in this case He used means, and so directed the fish into the net. This is beyond what man calls natural laws. Those fish did not happen to be alongside of Peter's boat at that time. The fish obeyed a higher will. The miracle of power Peter witnessed led to the miracle of *grace*. The supernatural gave a striking proof of Christ's omniscience and omnipotence. With this there came the recognition of his own exceeding sinfulness. "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord." It was a good thing for Peter that Jesus did not take him at his word and depart from him. In beholding Jesus' glory, Peter saw his own evil heart. Other saints had a similar experience (Job 42:5-6; Isaiah 6:5; Rev. 1:17).

The miracle at Galilee gave Jesus the opportunity He wanted of calling Peter and the rest into the relationship of discipleship. The miracle was designed by Jesus to catch Peter in His net, which He did. "Henceforth thou shalt catch men." Bringing their boat to shore, Peter, Andrew, James and John left them and their nets and their homes and followed Jesus. What happened to the remarkable haul of fish, we are not told. This is evident that after such an overwhelming display of power, the fishermen knew that the One calling them to full-time service was able to meet their needs. The miracle had taught them to have large expectations in Christ, and how graciously He undertook for them in the years that followed.

The climax is, that God is in control of us, no matter how we respond to His call. He is the Lord and we are under His domain. We respond to time and things. God responds without time and will eventually bring us to account according to His Eternal Word.

Some quotes from *Miracles of the Bible* by Herbert Lockyer.

PREPARING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

The staff at the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some tips for making the process easier.

1. Typewrite all copy. Use 8½ x 11 inch paper; smaller paper can get lost or misplaced. Do not strike over letters, and make all erasures as neat as possible. Be sure that the typewriter ribbon gives a clear copy.

2. Keep a copy of all material typed. This will avoid the possibility of having to redo the item in case of loss.

3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches down from the top of page one. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page; and for convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on one side of page only.

4. Leave a margin of at least an inch on both sides of paper.

5. Never write perpendicularly in the margin.

6. Write no more than one article on a sheet.

7. Do not divide a word between pages. Avoid dividing words between lines as much as possible.

8. Clip pages together, using paper clips. Do not staple pages.

9. Read, reread, and correct your own copy before submitting this. This is most important and will expedite matters greatly toward early publication.

10. If words, phrases, or sentences are of particular importance to the point of needing to be emphasized, indicate such by underlining or underscoring.

11. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation, inasmuch as possible.

12. Prepare your articles and reports as early in advance as possible so as not to delay their publication. It should be noted that all articles for publication should be in no later than thirty days in advance. For example, articles for publication in the March issue should be in the hands of the editor by February 1. (When the first is on Sunday, they should be in the hands of the editor on Monday.) It is most important that everyone observe this. Late copy delays the publication and causes problems on all fronts.

13. Remember that all items to be published should be submitted in typed form. Items should not be phoned in.

14. Churches and pastors wishing to announce their availability should note that this information is run as space permits. It should also be noted that there is absolutely no way anyone but the minister himself can relate his availability. (In the past, churches have tried to make such an announcement for their pastors. You can imagine the problems this causes!)

15. It should always be remembered that the editor makes the final decision as to whether or not something is deemed worthy of printing.

16. Send articles to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.



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FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Sit down and think for a few minutes about your church. What activities do you think others would like to know about? Use the space below to write about your church and its activities. See Page 31 for preparation details. When writing, remember to relate the who, what, where, and when.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

April
1990

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Children's Corner

29

Ideas for Celebrating Easter

30

Time for Vacation Bible School

31

April 1990

Vol. 105

No. 4

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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**"UP FROM THE GRAVE" TO BE
PRESENTED BY COMBINED CHOIRS**

Nine Original Free Will Baptist churches in Johnston County have combined members from their choirs to form a sixty-five member choir. This choir will perform at a Good Friday concert to be held at the Paul E. Johnston Auditorium on the campus of Johnston Community College in Smithfield.

The choir, which was formed in January, will perform "Up From the Grave," an Easter cantata by Joe Parks. The cantata is based on the Resurrection of Christ and the reactions of His followers. The choir is directed by Bryan Martin of Holly Springs Church.

The choir is composed of individuals from Faith Church of Four Oaks, Holly Springs Church of Kenly, Micro Church of Micro, Pine Level Church of Pine Level, Pleasant Plain Church of Selma, Selma Church of Selma, First Church of Smithfield, Stancil's

Chapel Church of Kenly, and Tee's Chapel Church of Smithfield.

The cantata contains numerous solos, duets, and mixed quartets. Choir members singing those parts include: Evelyn Martin and Joe Ballance of Holly Springs, John Finnell of Micro, Suzanne Coates of Pine Level, Linda Lassiter of Selma, Pansy Brown, Beth Woodard, and Darius Rose of Smithfield, and Susan Woodall of Tee's Chapel.

The program will be open to the public with no admission charge, but donations will be accepted to benefit the Foreign Missions ministry of the Original Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina. Sandra Jones will be present representing the Foreign Missions Board and will open the performance with a devotion.

The performance will be held on April 13 at 8 p.m. Johnston Com-

munity College is located off US 70, one-half mile west of I-95. Anyone needing more information on this performance can contact Bryan Martin at 965-4370.

Following is a list of participants:

Peggy Powell	Smithfield
Donna Stallings	Smithfield
Carl Brown	Smithfield
Darius Rose	Smithfield
Bud Stallings	Smithfield
Cathy Creech	Stancil's Chapel
Johnnie Edwards	Tee's Chapel
Susan Woodall	Tee's Chapel
Debbie Ledbetter	Tee's Chapel
Michael Ledbetter	Tee's Chapel
Durwood Woodall	Tee's Chapel
Carol Daughtry	
Margaret Jackson	
Elmer Jackson	
Carolyn Lee	Faith
Jan O'Neal	Faith
Portia Snead	Faith
Patrick Wilkins	Faith
Bethany Aycock	Holly Springs
Marvene Creech	Holly Springs
Frances Pope	Holly Springs
Joe Ballance	Holly Springs

(Turn the Page)

Rodney Fitzgerald	Holly Springs
Jessica Creech	Holly Springs
Aundrea Creech	Holly Springs
Rose Crocker	Holly Springs
Mary Ruth Davis	Holly Springs
Beth Edwards	Holly Springs
Evelynn Martin	Holly Springs
Flonie Moore	Holly Springs
Polly Moore	Holly Springs
Tracey Crocker	Holly Springs
Frank Davis	Holly Springs
Royster Martin	Holly Springs
John Finnell	Micro
Clyde Cox	Micro
Suzane Coates	Pine Level
Kay Jones	Pine Level
Sharon Crowell	Pine Level
Sallie Evans	Pine Level
Jennifer Gudac	Pine Level
Nancy Foster	Pleasant Plain
Karen Grubbs	Selma
Sherri Johnson	Selma
Linda Lassiter	Selma
Frank Grubbs	Selma
Linda Boykin	Selma
Angela Feagans	Selma
Carol Parrish	Selma
Pansy Brown	Smithfield
Louise Flowers	Smithfield
Beth Woodard	Smithfield
Johnny Byrd	Smithfield
Lucille Coates	Smithfield
Susan Hicks	Smithfield
Linda Hinnant	Smithfield
Dora Johnson	Smithfield
Laura Lamm	Smithfield
Olivia Lee	Smithfield
Carmen Martin	Smithfield

THE LAST SACRIFICE

... is a dramatic musical exalting Christ as the final sacrifice for man's sin. Written by Grace Hawthorne and Tom Fettke, "The Last Sacrifice" is a moving reminder of the commitment of our Lord to the redemption of human beings.

With a range of musical styles from Hebrew folk to contemporary praise, including: "Sacrifices," "I Cannot Hide from God," "Living with the People," and "Worthy Is the Lamb of God"; and also, narrators, dramatic characters and the observance of Holy Communion, it is an outstanding worship experience.

"The Last Sacrifice" will be presented to the glory of God and for the edification of Christians on Palm Sunday, April 8, 1990, by the

combined choirs of Deep Run Church and First Church, Kinston.

Everyone is cordially invited to join us for these special presentations.

TIME

3:00 p.m.—Deep Run Church
Deep Run, North Carolina

7:30 p.m.—First Church
314 West Lenoir Avenue
Kinston, North Carolina

WESTERN FIRST UNION TO MEET

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet with Rains Cross Roads Church on Saturday, April 28. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Royster Martin will bring the Union Message, with the Rev. Ray Wells serving as his alternate.

The Rev. David Kriger is moderator; the Rev. James Joyner serves as secretary-treasurer.

ALBEMARLE WOMEN TO MEET

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Shiloh Church, Pinetown, on Saturday, April 14. The Convention theme will be "God's Messenger," with Luke 7:27 serving as the theme Scripture.

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story"
—Devotions, Mrs. Brenda Owens
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Margaret Sheppard
—Response, Mrs. Margaret Morris
—President's Greetings, Mrs. Eunice Sexton
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes

—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Offering for Missions
—Hymn, "We've a Story to Tell"
10:55—Report of the Ministries, the Rev. C. H. Overman, General Secretary
11:20—Offering for Children's Home
—Hymn, "Let Others See Jesus in You"
11:25—Special Music, Host Church
11:30—Message, Mrs. Judy Cox
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Give of Your Best to the Master"
1:05—Devotions, Mrs. Viola Best
1:15—Youth Report
1:30—Committee Reports
—Announcement of Next Convention
—Miscellaneous Business
—Reflections, Mrs. Erchie Waters
—Benediction and Adjournment

CAPE FEAR UNION TO MEET

The Cape Fear Union will convene with Pleasant Grove Church, Erwin, NC, April 28, 1990. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotions, The Rev. Larry Littleton
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Special Music, Host Church

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

—Message, the Rev. Ed Taylor; Alternate, the Rev. Jeff Hayes

12:00—Report of Treasurer

—Report of Committees

—Unfinished Business

—Benediction and Adjournment

—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

CAPE FEAR YOUTH MEETING

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet at Haymount Church, Fayetteville, on April 7. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

All youth are encouraged to attend.

BESSIE H. GAY RECOGNIZED

On Sunday, February 25, during the morning service at First Church, Wilson, Mrs. Bessie H. Gay was awarded a Life Membership Award from the Woman's Auxiliary. Eunice Boykin, Woman's Auxiliary president, made the presentation. Bessie was recognized for her faithfulness and commitment to the Auxiliary during her 29 years of service and membership.

A special tribute, written by her stepmother, Betsy Horton, was read. Mrs. Horton's comments commended Bessie for her Christian life. She pointed out special attributes such as always being ready when needed, whether it is taking food to a shut-in or furnishing transportation for ones who need it. This could be to church, to the doctor, or grocery store. She doesn't seek praise; her reward is knowing she is serving God by her willingness to help everyone. Her many visits at the hospital or to shut-ins, and her witnessing wherever she goes, often go unnoticed. Bessie's life exemplifies a genuine Christian.

When Ms. Boykin presented the Life Award Certificate and pin to Bessie, she encouraged her to treasure this award and to wear



Bessie H. Gay

the pin with pride as she continues serving God through the Woman's Auxiliary and in her everyday life. Her family gave her the Auxiliary pin to compliment the Life Award pin.

Bessie has 5 children and several grandchildren.

SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen

Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, Adult Sunday School Class honored Mrs. Glynn Bragg during the month of February.

Mrs. Bragg became a member of Red Oak Christian Church in 1932. Her father was Sunday School Superintendent and if she did not attend Sunday School, she automatically received a dose of castor oil. Can you imagine this? In 1963, she moved her membership to College Park Baptist Church in Charlotte. Her husband was a member of this church. Around 1977, she moved her membership to Pleasant Hill Church, upon returning to the Greenville area.

Mrs. Bragg is not in good health, but she surely is a regular attendant of Sunday School and all the services that she is able to attend. She requests your prayers. Glynn says that she finds wonderful fellowship at her church and lots of love.

Glynn married Stuart Bragg in 1941. She and Stuart have one son,



Mrs. Glynn Bragg

one grandson and one step-granddaughter.

Mrs. Bragg is retired now due to ill health but worked for many years and did have a grocery store here.

Glynn was honored with a coffee hour and given a red rose bouquet.

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION SWORD DRILL WINNERS

One of the most exciting and interesting events at the annual North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues is the Sword Drill. As the "Training Service of the Church," the League seeks to train in Bible knowledge and use of the Bible. This year's Convention, which met on March 10 at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, had a total of eleven who participated.

There was a total of five intermediates contestants. First place winner was Stacy Burgess from Hickory Chapel Church, second place winner was Jennifer Wooten from Peace Church, and third place winner was Kelly Britton from Hickory Chapel Church. Fifth and sixth places went to Christy Wooten from Peace Church and Sherry Owens from Aspen Grove Church.

There were six junior contestants. There was a tie for first place and the winners were Tracy

(Turn the Page)



Junior participants (left to right): Lauren May, Claire Taylor, Brenna Monk, Paul Aycock, Jason Cooper and Tracy Cannon.



Intermediate contestants (left to right): Stacy Burgess, Jennifer Wooten, Sherry Owens, Kelly Britton, and Christy Wooten.

Cannon and Jason Cooper both from Peace Church. Second place winner was Lauren May from Hickory Chapel Church. Third place was Claire Taylor from Hickory Chapel Church. Fourth place winner was Paul Aycock from First Church, Goldsboro,

and fifth place was Brenna Monk of First Church, Goldsboro.

The 1991 session of the League Convention will meet on March 9 at Hickory Chapel Church in the Albemarle Conference. Please take note of the Study Guide for the Sword Drill.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are extended to the Rev. and Mrs. Joe Ard on the birth of a son, Caleb Joel, born on February 5, 1990. Caleb has an older brother, Billy Joe. Mr. Ard serves as pastor of Davis Church, Davis, NC.

Congratulations are also extended to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Lee Goff. Jerry and Lee Ann are the proud parents of a little girl, Hayley Amanda, born on March 23, 1990. Hayley is the Goffs' first child. Jerry works as illustrator/lithographer at the Free Will Baptist Press.

HICKORY GROVE REVIVAL

Hickory Grove Church has revival services planned for April 8-11 at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. J. B. Narron. Special singing and a nursery will be provided.

Hickory Grove Church is pastored by the Rev. C. H. Overman.

NEWS FROM ANTIOCH CHURCH

On Sunday, March 11, immediately following the morning worship service, conducted by the Rev. Jerry B. English at Antioch Church, New Bern, there was a release of 100 helium-filled balloons by the children in the parking lot. In each balloon, there was a message.

Those recovering these balloons have been asked to phone or write the parsonage. The congregation wants to determine its outreach from this phase of its Centennial Celebration and the theme for the year, "Antioch, a Beacon of Light."

Mrs. Joyce Sawyer's Wednesday night class of little folks presented the church with pew Bibles. They earned the money to buy them by collecting paper, aluminum and tin cans, and glass.

GRIFFIN

BROTHERHOOD TO MEET

The Griffin Brotherhood will meet on May 4 at the Southern Belle Restaurant, Mount Olive. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

SENIOR CITIZENS OF DAVIS CHURCH HONORED

Approximately 45 senior citizens of Davis Church were honored on February 24, 1990, in the fellowship hall of the church. The hall was decorated with red and white streamers, balloons, and fresh flowers on each table. The evening began with a meal of stewed chicken, baked ham, clam chowder, green beans, baked

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

beans, potato salad, rolls, hush puppies, desserts, iced tea and coffee prepared by the young adults.

After the meal, the entertainment began with the crowning of a king and queen. Mr. Harry Willis was crowned king and Mrs. Tressa Willis was crowned queen to reign over the evening. Next, the group enjoyed a sing-along of old familiar songs from their younger days, accompanied by Christina Willis on the keyboard. The next event was watching films of some of the senior citizens during their younger days. This brought a lot of smiles to the group. They also enjoyed playing "Who's Who?" Short poems had been written about each of the senior citizens giving some unique characteristics. Everyone enjoyed guessing who the person being described in the poems was. A couple of hilarious skits, performed by some of the young adult, followed. The evening ended with a tribute to the senior citizens, expressing gratitude and love for their many years of faithful service to God, the church, and the community.

The senior citizens were given programs booklets which contained the events of the evening, copies of all poems written for each of them, and bookmarks as remembrances. It was a very special time of fellowship for all present.

Senior citizens are very special people and should be honored always—and not just on one day out of the year. Davis Church members have decided this was the first annual banquet to honor their senior citizens.

CAPE FEAR WOMEN TO MEET

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet with First Church, Smithfield, on April 11. "Good News for the Faithful" will be the theme of the day, with Matthew 25:21 being the Convention theme Scripture.

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "A Child of the King"
- Devotions, Rhonda Denning, Johnston Union Church
- Welcome, Host Church
- Response, Retha Lee, Saint Mary's Grove Church
- Greeting, President Linda Jackson, Shady Grove Church
- Special Music, Pansy Guy, Host Church

BUSINESS SESSION

- Foreign Missions
- Home Missions
- Retirement Homes
- Children's Home
- Free Will Baptist Press
- Mount Olive College
- Cragmont
- Youth
- 11:15—Morning Worship
- Hymn, "Standing on the Promises"
- Offering
- Special Music, Host Church
- Convention Message, Sandra Jones, Winterville Church
- Hymn, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn, "Blessed Assurance"
- Memorial Service, Lizzie Dawson, Shady Grove Church
- 1:20—Miscellaneous Business
- Hymn, "The Way of the Cross Leads Home"
- 2:00—Adjournment

STUDY COURSE PLANNED

The Central District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will hold a Conference Study Course on Tuesday, April 10, at Marlboro Church.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor, executive director at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, will speak on family and stress.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Marlboro Church is located on 264-A, Farmville, NC.

ANNUAL SESSION PLANNED

The Sixty-third Annual State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet on Thursday, May 10, at Oak Grove Church, Route 4, Bladenboro, North Carolina, hosted by the Pee Dee District.

THEME: WE ARE CALLED

THEME SCRIPTURE: "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called" (Ephesians 4:1)

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"
- Prayer for the Success of the Convention
- Welcome, Nancy Hardee, president of Pee Dee Convention
- Response, Jean Marlow, Western Conference
- Announcements/Directions, Linda Bryan, president, Oak Grove Auxiliary
- President's Greetings
- Business Session
- 10:25—Hymn, "O, Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"
- Morning Message, Marice Debruhl, Eastern Conference
- Special Music
- 11:10—Memorial Service, Carolyn Jernigan, Cape Fear Conference
- Special Music
- 11:30—Life Membership
- 11:45—Hymn, "Amazing Grace"
- Morning Offering
- Special Recognition of Denominational Representatives

(Turn the Page)

12:00—Lunch Announcement
—Benediction

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Theme Song, "O, Master,
Let Me Walk With Thee"
—Message, Helen Beaman,
Central Conference
—Special Music, Avary Bris-
son, Pee Dee Conference
1:35—Miscellaneous Business
—Reports
—Installation of Officers
—Hymn, "Help Somebody
Today"
—Benediction

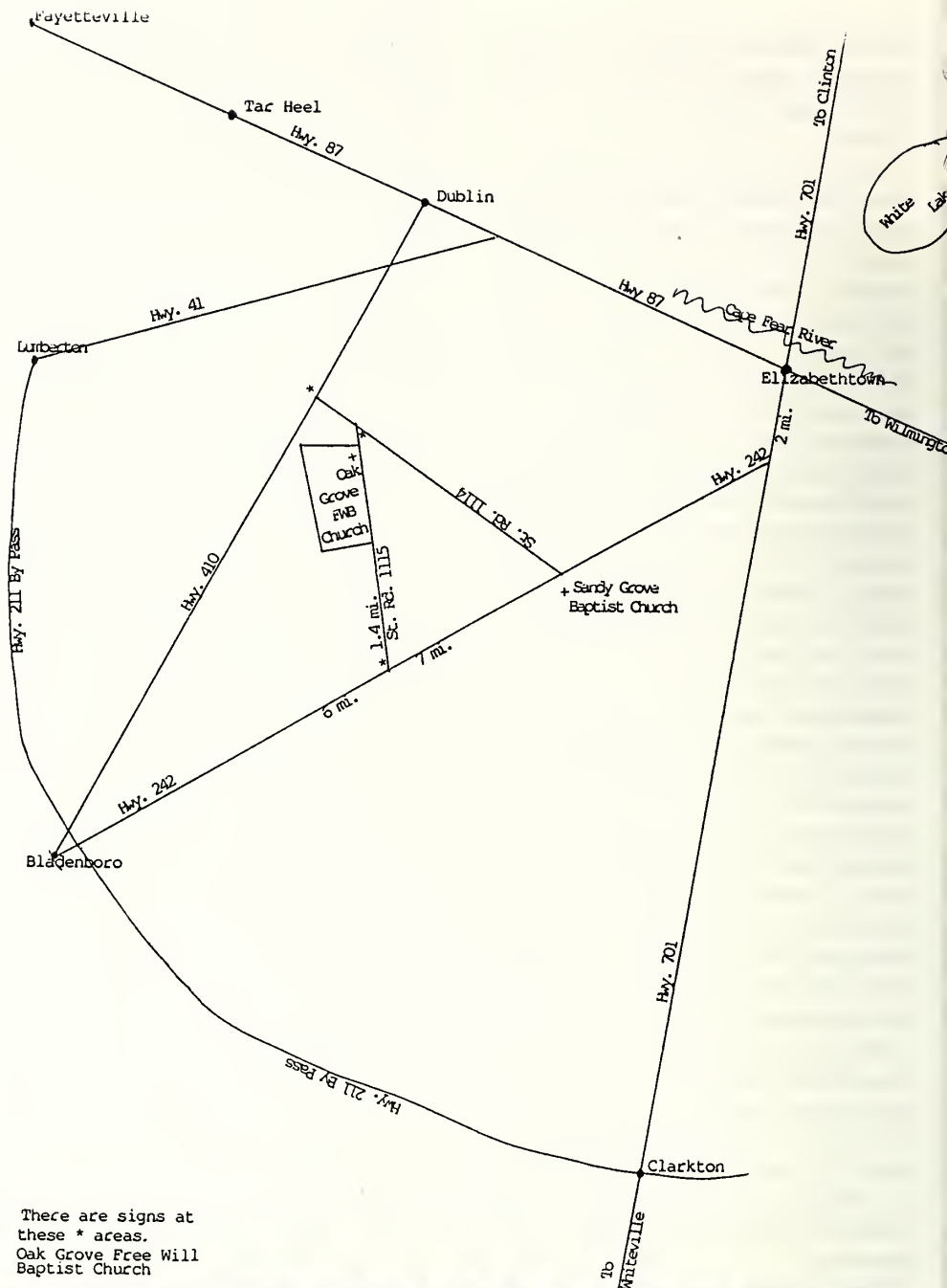
The Convention lunch will be catered by The Front Porch Restaurant of Elizabethtown. The cost of the meal is \$4.15 per person. This includes dessert and drinks.

For those that will be staying overnight, there are motels available.

Goldston's Motel (Contact person,
Jill Womble)
White Lake (waterfront)
Phone: Motel—(919) 862-4064
Home—(919) 862-3504
Room Rate: Double—\$40-\$45
Single—\$34
(Call for reservations as soon as
possible)

Day's Inn
Lumberton, NC
Phone: 1-800-325-2525

Holiday Inn
I-95, Lumberton, NC
Phone: (919) 738-4261



There are signs at
these * areas.
Oak Grove Free Will
Baptist Church

EVERTON RETIRES AS MANAGER

Much of Hattie Mae Everton's life has been spent in Christian service. While she continues to be active in her local church, Mrs. Everton recently retired from her position as manager of the Wilson Bible and Bookstore, a branch of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Inc., located in Ayden, NC. She is seen here with R. Clifford Gray Jr., executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press.





NOT QUITE AS PLANNED . . .

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines dedication as "an act or rite of dedicating to a divine being or to a sacred use; a devoting or setting aside for a particular purpose; self-sacrificing devotion." That last definition seems to apply to the Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard.

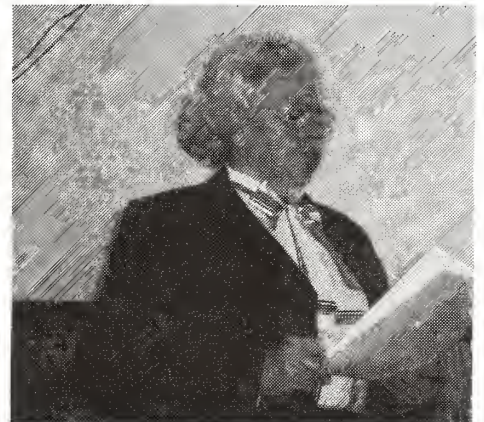
Mrs. Stallard is a member of the Convention Home Missions and Evangelism Board. After a recent meeting of the Board, Mrs. Stallard prepared to return to her home in Kernersville. The transmission in her car, however, needed repairs and delayed her trip. In fact, she returned home in the cab of a Greensboro company wrecker, with her car in tow, nine hours later.

Even though things did not go quite as planned, Mrs. Stallard *did* have a nice day: She got to know the employees of the Free Will Baptist Press much better. She also had the opportunity to share her faith with Mike, the wrecker driver.

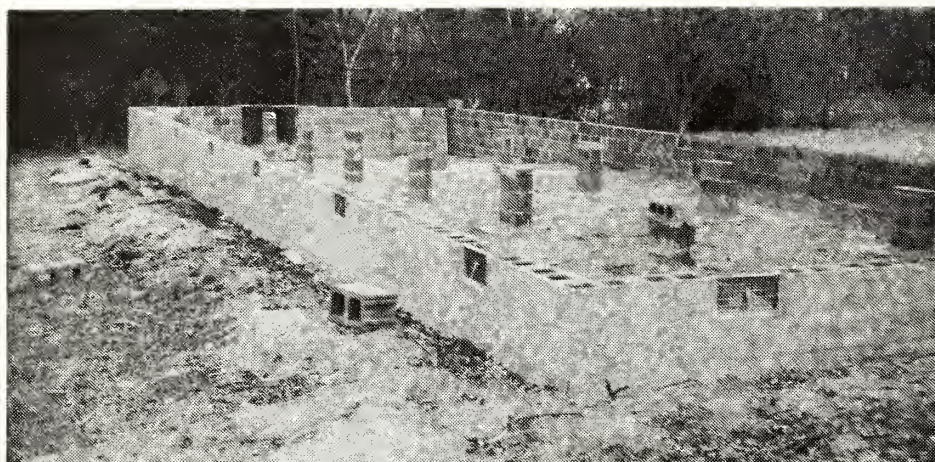
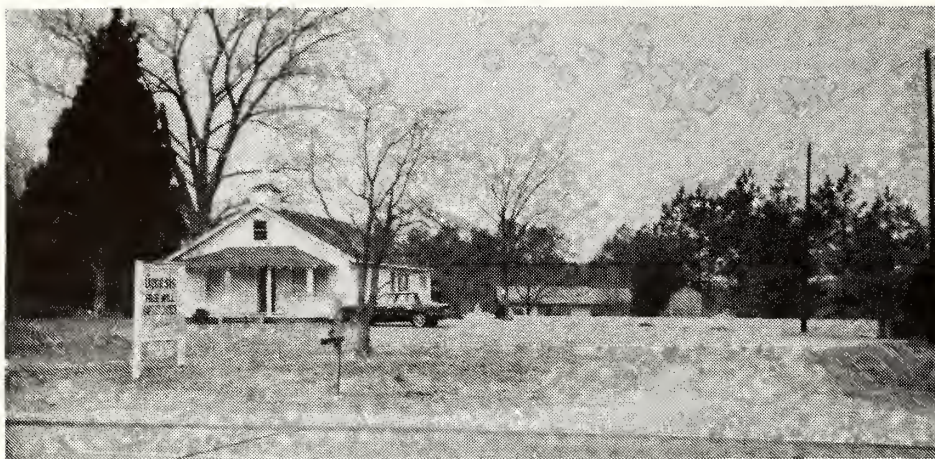
Mrs. Stallard pastors House of Prayer Church, Kernersville.



The Rev. Walter Sutton (right) recently discussed the Retirement Homes program with the Rev. Claud Beam Jr., pastor of Sweet Haven Church, Rockingham, NC.



Mrs. Hazel Brown, a member of East Rockingham Church, is seen here reporting at the Piedmont Conference for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home (photo by David C. Hansley).



CAPE FEAR CHURCH RAISIN'

As promised at the Missions Rally last September by the Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism *and* by God's leadership, a church building was raised in a single day. Some doubted; some said, "Maybe so." Others indicated that it would take a lot of doing.

With the good leadership of the Executive Director of Home Missions and Evangelism, along with the cooperation of the director/pastor, the dream became a reality.

As the Genesis Mission, along with the Board of Directors of Home Missions and Evangelism,

set out to develop a new focus, an electrifying enthusiasm began to touch the lives of the people in the Mission. As God moved upon all involved in the new focus, several accepted Christ and were baptized in January 1990. The next step of faith was to erect a fellowship/worship building in a single day (or at least to dry it in).

On Saturday, February 10, 1990, 87 men, women, boys and girls from ten Cape Fear churches gathered together to begin the awesome challenge at 8 a.m. A devotion was given by the director pastor, the Rev. Al Markuson; and at 8:15, directions were given. By 8:20, construction began on the 24' x 68' building. In less than two hours, the walls were in place. Then came the trusses, taking only 37 minutes to install. They were followed by the roof sheeting and were papered. At 11:45, everyone gathered inside to have grace for the meal. Before 2:30 p.m., when the rain caused construction to cease, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the roof was shingled and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the siding was in place, along with the window frames, doors, and inner wall for the kitchen and two restrooms.

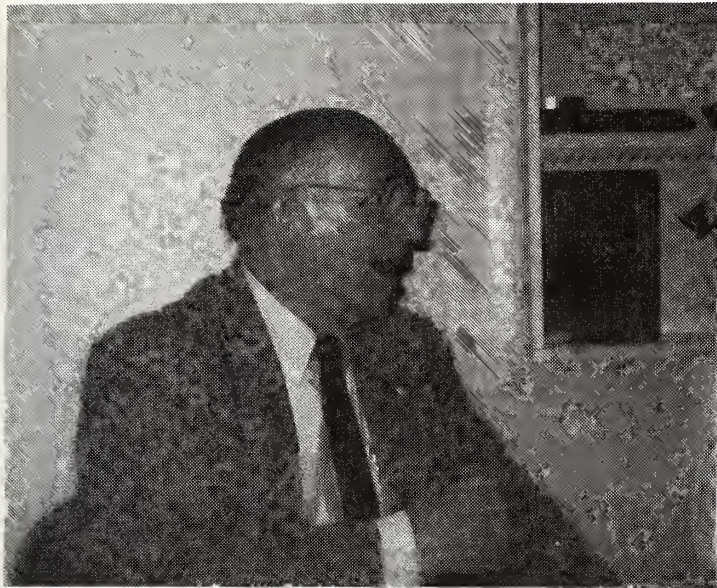
You ask, "Why build now?" Simply because the old redone house the Mission has been using is in very bad condition. Besides this, the house is not adequate to care for the number of people now attending.

A great deal of thanks is extended to everyone who participated. A special thanks is extended to each church who helped to make this dream a reality.

Plans for completion are now in the making as funds are available. The plans include another workday to finish the inside and to paint the outside.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

SCENES FROM THE HOME MISSIONS
ALL-NIGHT PRAYER SERVICE
Held January 19, 1990





CRAGMONT JUBILEE

The Cragmont Board of Directors met February 19, 1990, at the Free Will Baptist Press for its annual meeting. One item that should have great impact upon Cragmont is what will be called "Cragmont Jubilee."

The year 1995 marks Cragmont's 50th anniversary. Thoughts naturally turned toward planning some sort of celebration in honor of our 50th year. All of the members of the Board agreed that the greatest celebration of all would be if Cragmont were debt free. Out of this thinking came the plan for the Cragmont Jubilee.

The concept of Jubilee is taken from Leviticus 24, where the "Year of Jubilee" is explained. The Year of Jubilee is the 50th year when all debts are wiped clean. It is our plan that Cragmont be debt free by its 50th year, 1995. We need to find 400 people who will pledge \$1,000 over the next five years. This will be payable as follows: 1) \$1,000 for the full amount, 2) \$200 per year, 3) \$100 semiannually, or 4) \$50 quarterly.

This pledge could be made by churches, Sunday Schools, Woman's Auxiliaries, youth groups, individuals, families, etc. It must be stressed that these funds must be over and above what you are presently giving in order to achieve the goal of being debt free.

Our Board members are very excited about this plan. They believe we can make it happen. Plans are also being made to burn the note in 1995 in a big celebration in which the entire Free Will Baptist denomination will be invited to participate. More detailed information will be reported at a later time.

A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

No doubt you have heard or read the theme developed by the military: "We need a few good men." There is a need at Cragmont for a few good people, men and women, to help with fund raising. We are interested in people who love Cragmont and who are interested in doing some volunteer fund raising. The concept works like this: A team of interested people will volunteer to go to our Free Will Baptist churches to present a program on Cragmont. The program will consist of a slide presentation and printed materials, and generally talking about the ministry of Cragmont. All materials will be provided, including slides, projector, etc. Our Cragmont office will schedule the church visits. Most churches are interested in having ministry presentations either Wednesday nights or Sunday nights, which would not keep you away from your church for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested in doing this kind of volunteer work for Cragmont, I would like to hear from you as soon as possible. You can write or call:

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone (704) 669-7677

MORNING STAR Spring Women's Mini Retreat

Cragmont Assembly,
Black Mountain, North Carolina
Friday, April 20—Sunday,
April 22, 1990
(The weekend after Easter)

Tentative Schedule

Friday, April 20, 1990
Saturday, April 21

8 p.m.—Opening Service
Morning—Bible Study and Music
Afternoon—Free for Your Own Adventures
Evening—Service
Morning Worship Service
11 a.m.—Homeward Bound

Cost:

\$10 Registration
35 Balance Due on Arrival
\$45 Total

Includes 2 nights, 3 meals Saturday, 1 meal Sunday

If you have questions, please call:

Co-Directors: Dola Dudley, (919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner, (919) 332-2772, or 332-6810

Mail Registration Fee and the form below to:

Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

Registration for MORNING STAR

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



1990 CRAGMONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Below you will find the schedule of conferences and the person to contact for registering.

MORNING STAR

April 20-22
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

June 11-16
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

June 18-21
Marvin Waters
2413 Brices Creek Road
New Bern, NC 28560

CHRISTIAN CADET

June 25-30
Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER (YFA)

July 2-7
Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER (AFC)

July 9-14
Doug Skinner
804 Cooper Street
Winterville, NC 28590

GENERAL YOUTH II

July 16-21
Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I

July 23-28
Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE

July 30—August 4
James Gurganus
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 6-11
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 15-18
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB I

October 19-21
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB II

October 26-28
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CORNERSTONE

November 23-25
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

SNOW HOUND

December 28-January 1
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES ESTABLISHED AT MOC



Mount Olive College has established a School of Christian Studies with programs designed for ministers, church staff workers and laypersons. Pictured are members of a sub-committee appointed to administer the program. From left, De Wayne Eakes, Ray Wells, Dr. K. David Hines, and Marvin Waters. Not pictured is Garland Suggs, also a member.

A School of Christian Studies has been established at Mount Olive College to "... promote the fulfilling of the Great Commission through equipping persons for sharing and living the gospel of Jesus Christ."

The concept for the School was developed by the Board of Advisors on Christian Ministries and approved by the MOC Board of Trustees. Under the direction of Dr. K. David Hines, director of education for Christian ministries, the School will provide opportunities for pastors and church staff workers to continue their spiritual, personal and professional growth, and it will assist laypersons in becoming better informed and equipped for service and leadership in the church. The School will take the place of the College's Paul Palmer Institute.

"I truly believe it is a joy to serve if you know how. It has been our (the College's) purpose to design a continuing education program that equips people for Christian service," says Dr. Hines. "The School of Christian Studies is one way Mount Olive College has responded to the needs of the churches and ministers of our region."

In order to meet the needs of both ministers and laypersons, the School offers a dual curriculum.

The Continuing Education Series is designed with the needs of pastors and other church staff workers in mind. Seminars, workshops and classes may be developed around such topics as pastoral leadership, church growth and evangelism, church administration, biblical interpretation or ministerial ethics.

The Timothy Series is designed to foster the personal growth of laypersons and to equip them for richer service in the church. The name for this series is taken from Paul's instructions in 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV): "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Seminars, workshops and classes offered could include, "How to Read and Study the Bible," "Developing One's Devotional Life," "The Ministry of Deacons," "Developing a Growing Sunday School," and "So You Are a Free Will Baptist . . ." One feature of this program is its flexibility. Programs can be designed as the need

arises.

Those who participate in courses or workshops will be given certificates of recognition. Participants will be awarded one "Continuing Education Unit" for ten hours of study. (Participation in this program does not count toward meeting degree requirements at Mount Olive College.)

A sub-committee has been appointed to help administer the School of Christian Studies. Those appointed include, De Wayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Church and president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; Ray Wells, pastor of Marsh Swamp Church and president of the North Carolina Ministerial Association; Marvin Waters, pastor of St. Mary's Church (Craven County); and Garland Suggs, pastor of Whiteville Mission Church (Pee Dee Conference).

For more information on the School of Christian Studies contact, Dr. K. David Hines, director of education for Christian Studies, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina; (919) 658-2502.

Join Us For Our FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

MAY 12, 1990

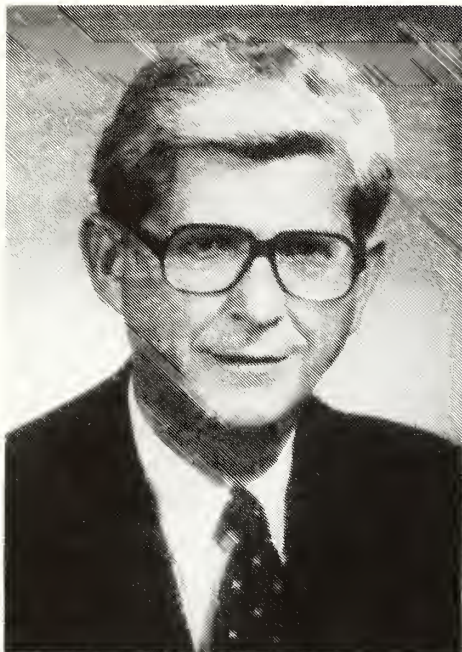
70 **SEVENTY** 70

YEARS OF CHRISTIAN
MINISTRY IN CHILD CARE

Free Will Baptist Children's Home

Be Our Guest for Lunch	12:00
Founder's Day Service	1:00
Open House & Fellowship	2:00

GRADUATION EXERCISES MAY 12



Dr. Paul P.
Griffin

Friends of Mount Olive College are invited to share in the 1990 commencement worship service and graduation exercises. More than 150 students are expected to receive degrees, the largest number in the College's history.

The Rev. William Futch will speak at the commencement worship service on Sunday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m. in College Hall.

Dr. Paul P. Griffin, director of pediatric orthopaedics at the Johns Hopkins University, will speak at graduation exercises on Saturday, May 12, at 10:30 a.m. in College Hall.

Mr. Futch has been the pastor of Bethlehem Church in Duplin County since 1978. He received an A.A. from Mount Olive College and a B.A. from East Carolina University. He holds a master of divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and a certificate in pastoral care from Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

His current church positions include serving on the Board of Ordination of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Bap-

tists and on the Board of Home Missions for the North Carolina State Convention.

Dr. Griffin is the son of the late Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Griffin, an outstanding pastor, writer and leader in the Free Will Baptist Church for 57 years. The late Mr. Griffin held many important posts in the Free Will Baptist denomination and wrote the weekly column "Notes and Quotes" for *The Free Will Baptist* for more than 40 years. The dormitory Griffin Hall on the College campus was dedicated in his memory.

Dr. Griffin has been a practicing orthopaedic surgeon for over 35 years and professor of orthopaedic surgery for more than 30 years. He received a B.S. from Wake Forest University in 1949 and an M.D. from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in 1953. Previous academic appointments have included the Harvard Medical School (1960-69 and 1981-86), George Washington University (1969-71), Vanderbilt University School of Medicine (1971-81), and Rush Medical School (1986-87). He has held his current appointment since 1987.

Previous hospital appointments have included Children's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts (assistant, associate and senior associate in orthopaedic surgery, 1959-69 and orthopaedic surgeon-in-chief, 1981-86), Vanderbilt University Hospital (chief, department of orthopaedics and rehabilitation, 1971-1981), Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children, Chicago, Illinois, (1986-87).

Dr. Griffin has received the Bowman Gray School of Medicine distinguished alumni award and distinguished service award. He holds membership in several professional societies including the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society, of which he is a charter member.

A reception will be held on the campus lawn immediately following graduation exercises.

PROJECT EAST AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

*written by Dr. Pepper Worthington
MOC Professor of English*

"We in eastern North Carolina must know our students," said Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper as he summed up the intention of Project EAST 1990, a premiere conference on education and economics held at the College on February 27. "We must know the background from which they come. We must know our region, its plans for development, its needs. Mount Olive College seeks to provide a center for regional self-examination, a time and a place for citizens to gather and reflect on life in our region. We seek to implement challenges which will carry us successfully into the twenty-first century."

The premiere conference of Project EAST was the first in a series of annual conferences aimed at identifying and initiating progressive action in eastern North Carolina. EAST signifies the objectives of the "project": E (Education and Economics), A (Achievement), S (Service), T (Technology). This first conference was sponsored by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Humanities Council.

Dr. William C. Friday, president emeritus of the University of North Carolina system, opened the conference with his address, "Education and Economics in Eastern North Carolina." Dr. Friday stressed three steps in developing a stronger eastern wing of the state: more capital for economic growth, better schools for the future, and stronger leadership for the implementation of ideas.

At the noon luncheon, William S. Powell, professor of history emeritus at UNC-Chapel Hill, gave a capsule view of eastern North Carolina history. Mr. Powell stressed the fertile land of eastern North Carolina, the

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Dr. James Batten, retired professor of education at East Carolina University, talks with the Rev. Marvin Waters after Project EAST's educational forum. Dr. Batten is a former member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees and is a member of Micro Church. Mr. Waters is pastor of St. Mary's Church (Craven County).



S. Woodrow McCoy, a member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, talks with North Carolina Historian William S. Powell at the premiere conference of Project EAST.

strong independent nature of the people, and the early leadership which saw the first newspaper, first drama, and the first book of the state rise out of the eastern wing.

Roy G. Taylor, retired editor of the *Wilson Daily Times*, livened the luncheon with his anecdotes of Wayne County. His memories of cackling hens, geese, chairs on the front porch, blooming peach and pear trees, voices of bluebirds and robins, and wildflowers covering the banks of rivers brought springtime in eastern

North Carolina to light.

The afternoon sessions featured educators and writers of eastern North Carolina. Dr. Raper and Dr. Friday were the forum leaders for the afternoon session, "Education as an Agent of Change in Eastern North Carolina." Featured speakers were, Dr. James Batten, retired professor of education from East Carolina University; Ms. Jean Haislip, assistant superintendent of instruction, Goldsboro City Schools; J. David Ealy, a Mount Olive College scholar; and Dr. Isaac B. Horton, pastor of the

First African Baptist Church of Goldsboro.

Five ideas came to the forefront in the forum: education should be a means of developing people; attitudes and prejudices in eastern North Carolina need changing; the gap between the haves and have nots should be tightened; financial support for education should be a legislative priority; the correlation of curriculum to cultural needs should be established.

An afternoon writer's seminar featured the voices of eastern North Carolina writers. Poet Margaret Boothe Baddour of Goldsboro amused and awoke the audience with her poems, "The Baptizing at Stoney Creek."

Poet Becke Roughton of Kenansville captured the rural flavor of eastern North Carolina with her poems "Green Shoes" and "Paper Stars."

Novelist Patti O'Donoghue of Dudley read a scene from her novel, *Where America's Day Begins*. Dr. Pepper Worthington of Kinston captured the spirit of a dedicated public school teacher in her *News-Times* feature story of Jackie Davis. Author Roy G. Taylor brought the days of growing up on a tenant farm to life.

The evening speaker, Billy Ray Hall, president of the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, stressed five challenges for eastern North Carolina in the decade ahead: develop people as our primary resource; seek to address problems of poverty and drop-outs; link education to the labor force; link eastern North Carolina to a national and international awareness; and develop small businesses.

"We at Mount Olive College have both the opportunity and responsibility to serve a broader constituency than just our campus," stated President Raper. "We seek to be a strong regional institution of higher education."



CHILDREN'S HOME CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

It was 70 years ago, May 23, 1920, that the Free Will Baptist Children's Home opened its doors and began its ministry to children and families. Since that time, more than 1,000 children have been served through the ministry of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

The Children's Home will be celebrating 70 years of Christian ministry in child care on Saturday, May 12, 1990. We would like for every Free Will Baptist to be a part of the celebration.

You are invited to be our guest for lunch beginning at noon, followed by the Founder's Day Service at 1 p.m. The Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and pastor of Little Rock Church, will be the keynote speaker for the service.

During the service, there will be a special offering received for the Children's Home. We would like to encourage churches, auxiliaries, Sunday School classes, and other organizations to bring an offering of \$70 or more for this special 70th anniversary offering.

Following the service, you are welcome to stay as long as you wish for Open House and fellowship.

Many Free Will Baptists have never been to the Children's Home. This is the perfect opportunity for you to see the campus and be a part of the celebration. The Children's Home only celebrates this occasion every five years. The next Founder's Day will be the 75th in 1995.

Please let the Children's Home know by May 1, 1990, the number from your family or church that plans to attend so they can prepare for lunch.

BUILDINGS NEED NEW COVERING

Three of the buildings on the Children's Home campus need to be recovered. The cost of replacing the shingles is \$7,995, or \$65 per square. Individuals, families, churches, Sunday School classes, Auxiliaries, Layman's Leagues, and youth groups can purchase and install one or more squares of shingles by sending a gift of \$65 per square to the Children's Home, Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557. You may wish to sponsor the covering of an entire building; the costs are listed below. No gift is too big or too small.

	Squares	Cost
State Cottage	63	\$4,095
Albemarle Cottage	26	1,820
Store House	32	2,080
Total	121	\$7,995

CHILD DEDICATION

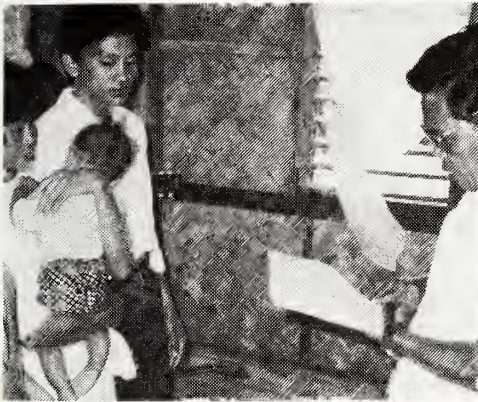
by Luz Manlangit



Last December 24, 1989, four children of the Maranatha Free Will Baptist Church members were dedicated to the Lord. Two of them were boys, Jezrel Ken Perez and Cyrel Baroro; the other two girls were Jesimae Napila and Ana Nipa. The minister who dedicated the children to the Lord was the Rev. Paul Grubbs. He was assisted by the church pastor, Mark Taladro. After the service, the brethren were invited to a luncheon.

THANKSGIVING IN ABO-ABO

by Raul A. Galfo



Having a church building is a great blessing for us. We, the Abo-Abo Free Will Baptist congregation, through the grace of God and the help of our brethren, have constructed a new church building. We dedicated our new church building to the Lord on December 19, 1989. Our invited special guests, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, the Rev. Pio dela Rosa, and Brother Diosdado Guian, cut the ribbons.

We moved inside the building for our thanksgiving worship service. God spoke to us through

Brother Diosdado Guian. We had much for which to be thankful. Not only did we have a new church building, but new church officers, a baby in the congregation, and new converts to baptize.

The Rev. Pio dela Rosa inducted our new church officers. The officers are Julian Aplon, president; Rosalinda Cuba, secretary; Norma Cuba, treasurer; and Terisita Aplon, auditor.

Mr. and Mrs. Emilio Tupas dedicated their only son to God. Mr. dela Rosa was the officiating minister.

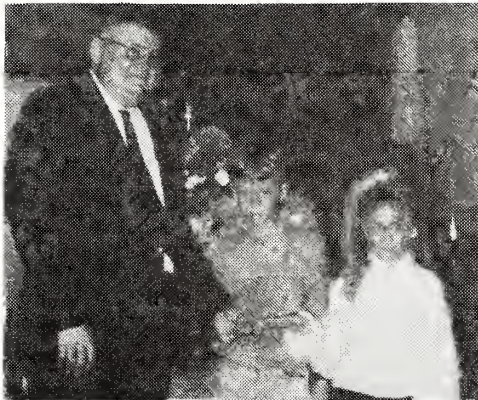
After a few minutes of rest, we proceeded to Calitigal dam, about 17 kilometers away, for a baptismal service. Mr. dela Rosa preached at the river's edge and the Rev. Paul Grubbs baptized Pascual Cuba, Norma Cuba, Arnel Cuba, Rosalinda Cuba, Imelda Cuba, Ofelia Tupas, and Darlyne Tupas.

We praise and thank the Lord for all the mighty things He has done in Abo-Abo Free Will Baptist Outreach. We urge you to continue to pray for us. 1 Corinthians 15:58 inspires us to continue serving the Lord faithfully.

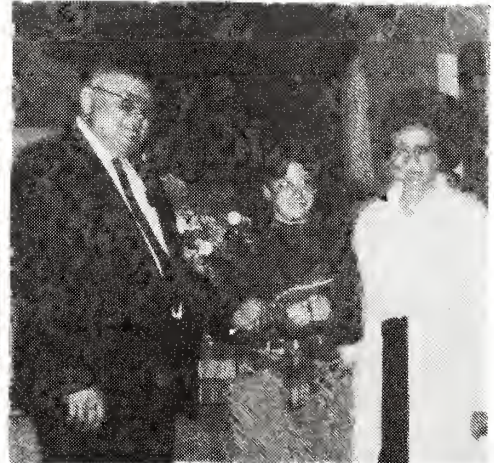
SANDY PLAIN CHURCH GIVES SUPPORT



The members of Sandy Plain Church are helping to underwrite the Retirement Homes support package for Hattie Mae Everton. Seen here are some members of the church making their first contribution for that cause. They are (left to right) Joel Kennedy, Theresa Kennedy, the Rev. Walter Sutton, Shirley Ricks, the Rev. David Ricks, pastor; Edward Thigpen, and Wilmer Tripp.



Johnathan and Julie Anne Kennedy, members of Sandy Plain Church AFC, are seen here presenting the Rev. Walter Sutton, director of the Retirement Homes ministry, coin folders.



The Rev. Walter Sutton also received coin folders from Natalie and Esther Sumner while at Sandy Plain Church.

TWO NEW PARTICIPANTS IN THE RETIREMENT HOMES MINISTRY

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes ministry has been charged with the responsibility of "owning, operating, and maintaining apartments, rest homes, skilled nursing care, day care and all other facilities and services necessary or incidental to the operation of such retirement ministries and to do all other things usually done in the conduct of such ministries for the care of elderly and indigent persons" (Convention Constitution, Section 22). The ministry has recently accepted two new participants: Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton and Miss Kay Jones.

Minister's wife, child-care worker, leader, manager, mother: Each of these are roles with which Hattie Mae Everton is familiar. In 1945, she married the Rev. G. Wilbert Everton. His ministry led him to serve as pastor of Spring Branch, Fremont, Daniels Chapel (twice), Hull Road, and Johnston Union Churches. During those years, Hattie Mae worked alongside her husband, ministering to the needs of others. This devoted couple worked at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for four years, when Mr. Everton served as superintendent and Mrs. Everton worked in whatever capacity she was needed. Mr. and Mrs. Everton served in many leadership capacities, both at church and denominational level. They are the only couple in the State Convention work in which the husband served as president of the State Convention at the same time the wife led the Woman's Auxiliary Convention as president.

When Mr. Everton died in 1971, he was serving as pastor of Daniels Chapel Church, Wilson, for a second time. Mrs. Everton continues to live in this community.

Hattie Mae teaches the Adult I Sunday School Class, is a member of the choir and the auxiliary. She has served in every office of the auxiliary and is presently serving as Missions Chairman. Sixteen years of her life were spent in association with the Free Will Baptist Press, as she served as manager of the Wilson Bible and Bookstore.

Mrs. Everton has four children: Jeff, Randy, Tom and Becky (Moore) with whom she resides.



Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton

No stranger to Free Will Baptists, Kay Jones has also been accepted into the program. A lifelong resident of Ayden, Kay is a member of Ayden Church. She has recently been "retired" from work at DuPont on a medical disability after 22½ years of employment.

Kay feels that it is a pleasure to be part of such a denomination because there are "a lot of nice people." She enjoys working for and with the different denominational ministry causes.

The daughter of Edna Jones (and the late Ernest Jones), Kay has moved into the retirement apartment located at 403 North Lee Street, Ayden, NC.

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Board expresses appreciation to all who have so faithfully supported this ministry. Prayer and gift support are the lifelines of this vital work.

For more information about this ministry, please contact the Rev. Walter Sutton, ministry director, at the Convention Headquarters.



Kay Jones

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Board
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963



TO: All Ministers of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
RE: Pre-registration for CRAGMONT MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, June 18-21, 1990

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Ministerial Association wishes to invite you to come be with us at Cragmont Assembly on June 18-21, 1990, for our annual Ministers' Conference. The theme of this year's conference is "Hear the Word." If you plan to attend this Conference, please send \$15 and the registration form below. (Registration covers the cost of your membership in the Association as well as your Cragmont Ministers' picture.)

Make checks payable to **North Carolina Ministerial Association** and mail to:

Marvin R. Waters
2413 Brices Creek Road
New Bern, North Carolina 28562

We wish to have your pre-registration by June 4, 1990.

PRE—REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
June 18-21, 1990

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Please indicate your building preference (rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis):

Main Building _____ Motel _____ Floyd House _____

Dorm _____ I will make my own lodging arrangements off campus _____

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? (The ground floor will be reserved for those with health problems.) Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate those with whom you wish to room if you stay in the Main Building or in the Motel:

Please note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the dining hall. (_____) Check here if your wife will be with you.

Would you like the Christian flag at your funeral? Yes _____ No _____ (New registration each year.)

If you are unable to attend our Conference this year and wish to join our Ministerial Association or renew your membership, please send \$12 membership dues (\$2 included for Ministers' Scholarship Fund) to Marvin Waters at the following address:
2413 Brices Creek Road, New Bern, NC 28562.

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION

May 18, 19, 20, 1990
Mount Olive College

GENERAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 18

4:30- 6:30—Registration

6:30—Meeting With All Talent
Participants in Chapel (ONLY PERFORMERS)

NO SUPPER WILL BE SERVED FRIDAY NIGHT

8:00—Talent Competition in College Hall

Saturday, May 19

7:30—Breakfast

8:30—Registration, College Hall (If Not Registered)

9:00-10:00—Business Session
(Campaigning and Voting for New Officers)

10:30-12:00—Competitions
1:30—Business Session and Installation of Officers

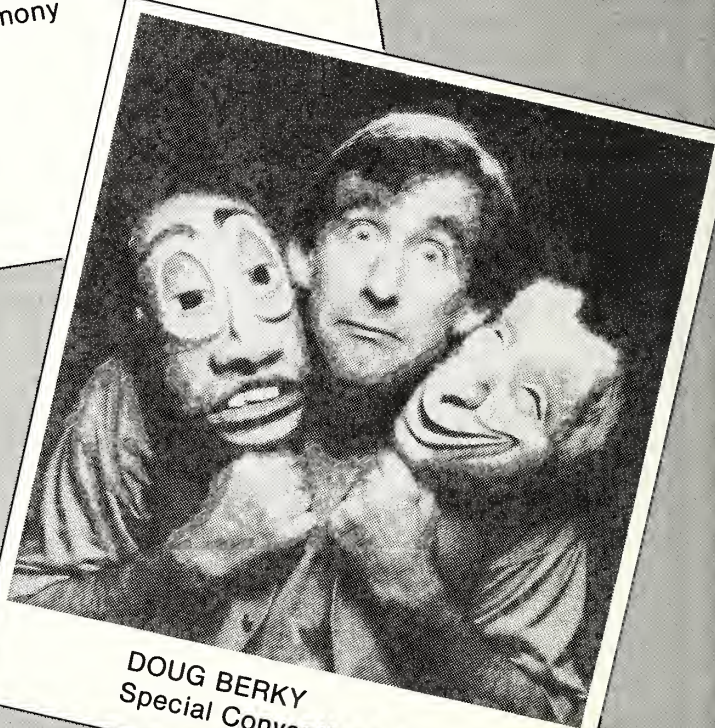
5:15- 6:30—Reception for All First Place District Winners

7:00—Entertainment and Awards Ceremony

Sunday, May 20

8:00—Breakfast

10:00—Morning Worship in Chapel



DOUG BERKY
Special Convention Guest

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meal tickets may be purchased on Friday night upon arrival (\$2, breakfast; \$3, lunch, supper).

Must be registered to vote and registration fee paid.

Guests should bring their own pillows, blankets, linens, towels, soap, money for meals, snacks, Bible, notebook, pencil and casual clothes.

Rooms will be assigned as received. Will only honor those with money included.

Money for lodging must be sent with a \$25 registration fee (per church) by May 1, 1990.

NO REFUNDS.

NO candy, gum, etc. may be used in campaigning.

NO skateboards, water guns, and shaving cream will be allowed. Youth leaders are responsible for their own Cherubs, AFC'ers and YFA'ers.

Bring change for drink machines. There will not be a Pepsi wagon this year.

Christian Writing and Art and Crafts must be registered by 6 Friday night.

Name of Church _____

Address _____

Please give address and phone number of person we may contact to answer questions about your group's registration:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Names of adults supervising young people staying overnight at the Convention (at least one adult male and one adult female; and they must be supervised at all times!):

Total number of youth and adults lodging overnight.

	Total	x \$6	Total
Friday			
Males (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Males (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____
Females (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Females (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____

Total number of youth and adults eating meals provided by MOC cafeteria.

	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	_____	_____
Lunch	_____	_____
Supper	_____	_____

Meal tickets sold at College Hall on Friday, 5 P.M.

Saturday

Males (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Males (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____
Females (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Females (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____
Registration fee (per church)			\$25.00

Total amount enclosed _____

Emergency numbers for reaching Youth Convention are:

658-5056, 658-5057, 658-9220

Dorm at night 658-9772

Registration forms, lodging money and registration fee should be sent to: Joan H. Little, Route 2, Box 347-C, Farmville, NC 27828; phone, 919/753-3217

April 1990

STUDY GUIDE FOR 1991 JUNIOR AND INTERMEDIATE SWORD DRILL

North Carolina State Convention
of Free Will Baptist Leagues

I. *Scripture Searching*

(Theme: Love, Charity)

1. Proverbs 10:12
2. John 5:41-42
3. Romans 13:10
4. 2 Corinthians 5:14
5. 1 Timothy 1:5
6. 1 Peter 4:8
7. Jude 12
8. Matthew 19:19
9. Deuteronomy 6:5
10. Psalm 26:8
11. 2 Thessalonians 1:3
12. Hebrews 13:1
13. Proverbs 17:17
14. Amos 5:15
15. Luke 7:42
16. John 11:3
17. Joshua 22:5
18. Matthew 5:44
19. Nehemiah 1:5
20. Psalm 145:20
21. James 2:8
22. Revelation 2:19
23. Jeremiah 5:31
24. 1 John 4:8

II. *Unfinished Quotations*

(Theme: Marriage)

1. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother . . ." (Genesis 2:24).
2. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ . . ." (Ephesians 5:25).
3. "Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice . . ." (Proverbs 5:18).
4. "But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female . . ." (Mark 10:6-9).
5. "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing . . ." (Proverbs 18:22).
6. "Who can find a virtuous woman? . . ." (Proverbs 31:10-11).

7. "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord . . ." (1 Corinthians 7:10-11).
8. "Neither shalt thou . . ." (Deuteronomy 5:18).
9. "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies . . ." (Ephesians 5:28-31).
10. "For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife . . ." (1 Corinthians 7:14).
11. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands . . ." (Ephesians 5:22-23).
12. "But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife . . ." (Matthew 5:32).

III. *Character Drill* (Theme: Love—Husband and Wife)

1. God (John 3:16)
2. Jesus (John 13:1)
3. Joseph (Genesis 41:45)
4. Moses (Exodus 2:21)
5. Samson (Judges 14:3-4)
6. Boaz (Ruth 4:13)
7. Elkanah (1 Samuel 1:1-2)
8. King Ahasuerus (Esther 2:16-17)
9. Job (Job 2:9-10)
10. Solomon (1 Kings 11:1-3)
11. Simon Peter (Mark 1:30)
12. Ananias (Acts 5:1)
13. Pilate (Matthew 27:19)
14. Herod (Mark 6:17-18)
15. Agrippa (Acts 25:13)
16. Aquila (Acts 18:2)
17. Hosea (Hosea 1:2-3)
18. Adam (Genesis 2:23)
19. Jacob (Genesis 29:20)
20. Isaac (Genesis 24:67)
21. Mary (Matthew 1:16)
22. Abram (Genesis 11:29)
23. Ahab (1 Kings 21:4-5)

24. Sons of God (Genesis 6:4)

IV. *Book Drill*

1. Mark
2. Song of Solomon
3. 1 Timothy
4. Leviticus
5. Zechariah
6. 2 Thessalonians
7. Proverbs
8. Jeremiah
9. Philemon
10. Nehemiah
11. Hosea
12. 1 John
13. Romans
14. 1 Kings
15. Acts
16. Hebrews
17. Nahum
18. Job
19. Amos
20. Daniel
21. James
22. Ruth
23. Jude
24. Joshua

V. *Topical Drill* (Theme: Love)

1. Faithful Witness (Revelation 1:5)
2. Commandment (John 15:12)
3. Walk (Ephesians 5:2)
4. Things (1 Peter 4:8)
5. Brother (Matthew 18:15)
6. Lie (Leviticus 19:11)
7. Circumcision (Galatians 5:6)
8. Love One Another (1 John 3:23)
9. Poor (Proverbs 19:17)
10. Fulfilled the Law (Romans 13:8)
11. Rebuke (Revelation 3:19)
12. Time (Ecclesiastes 3:8)
13. Friend (Proverbs 17:17)
14. Love the Lord (Psalm 97:10)

15. Shalt Love (Matthew 22: 37)
16. Everlasting (Jeremiah 31:3)
17. Be Perfect (2 Corinthians 13:11)
18. Bands of Love (Hosea 11:4)
19. Put on Love (Colossians 3:14)
20. Love of Money (1 Timothy 6:10)
21. Amen (1 Corinthians 16: 24)
22. Fret Not (Psalm 37:1)
23. Seal (Solomon 8:6)
24. The Lamb's Wife (Revelation 21:9)

VI. Doctrinal Drill

1. The Bible teaches God's Ten Commandments (Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5). (Read Exodus 20:3 or Deuteronomy 5: 11.)
2. The Bible teaches the Beatitudes (blesseds) of Jesus (Matthew 5). (Read 5:6.)
3. The Bible teaches Jesus' sermon from a mountain (Matthew 5-7). (Read 7: 12.)
4. The Bible teaches Jesus' model prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). (Read 6:13.)
5. The Bible teaches the Love Chapter (1 Corinthians 13). (Read 13:4-8.)

Concerning Angels

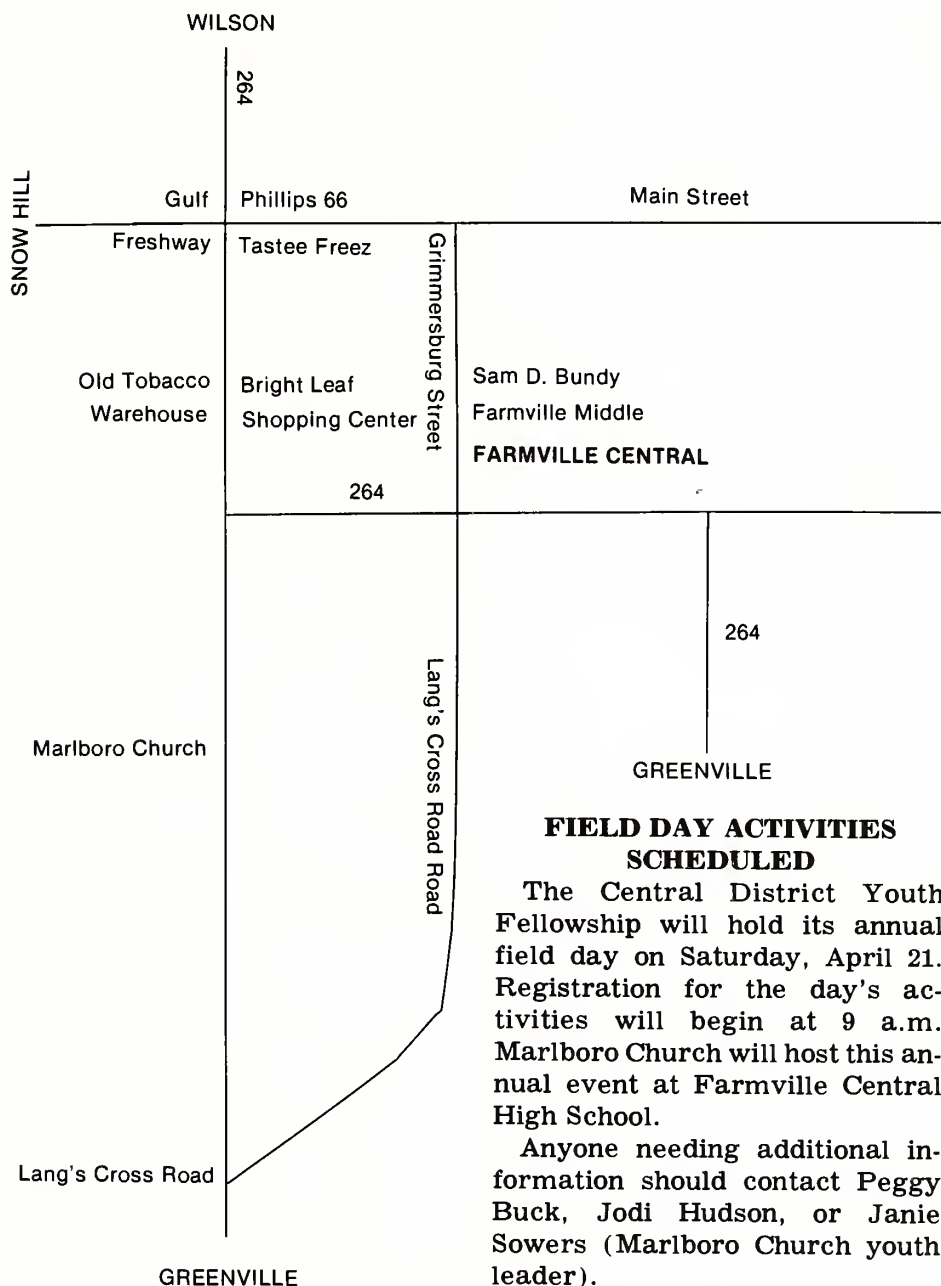
6. The Bible teaches that angels were created by God (Colossians 1:16).
7. The Bible teaches that angels were created to glorify God (Revelation 7:11).
8. The Bible teaches that angels were created to obey God's commandments (Psalm 103:20).
9. The Bible teaches that angels were created to minister blessings to the heirs of salvation or to

Christians (Hebrews 1: 13-14).

10. The Bible teaches that angels were created to execute judgment upon the world (Revelation 16:1-2).
11. The Bible teaches that angels are given power to become visible in human form (Genesis 19:1-2).
12. The Bible teaches that angels observe us in our conduct and behavior (Ecclesiastes 5:6).

Bibles will be provided. Those used are KJV 00312 (American Bible Society). Any church or youth group may have 2 junior (ages 9-11) and 2 intermediate (ages 12-15) contestants in the state Bible Sword Drill. However, at the convention the church must register with a \$25 registration fee. *Notice!* Only Bible references from *this* study guide will be accepted. God bless you!

Mrs. Margaret Ard
Route 1, Box 155
Pink Hill, NC 28572
Phone (919) 568-4685



FIELD DAY ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED

The Central District Youth Fellowship will hold its annual field day on Saturday, April 21. Registration for the day's activities will begin at 9 a.m. Marlboro Church will host this annual event at Farmville Central High School.

Anyone needing additional information should contact Peggy Buck, Jodi Hudson, or Janie Sowers (Marlboro Church youth leader).



Annual Gospel Music Festival

Eagles Nest Conference Center
Located Near Mount Olive, NC

Saturday, May 5

Singing From 9:30 A.M.—3:30 P.M.

Featuring

The New Life Singers

of Wilson

The Watchmen Quartet

of Fremont

Born Again

of Kinston

Moving Up Quartet

of Greenville


Bobbie Ann Proctor

of Fremont

Lunch . . .

Wilber's BBQ of Goldsboro will cater lunch, or you
can bring a picnic.

FREE ADMISSION



Sponsored by the North Carolina State Layman's League

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman, General Secretary

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE

The annual meeting of the Sunday School Institute (formerly called "The Sunday School Convention") was held on March 3, 1990, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina. The theme was, "The Sunday School in the 1990s: Meeting the Challenges." Initial reports indicate that it was the best attended in recent years. Comments were most favorable in reference to the panel discussion and the workshops.

The topic of the panel discussion was focused on the Institute's theme: "The Free Will Baptist Sunday School in the 1990s: Meeting the Challenges." The panel members consisted of Dr. David Hines, instructor in Church Growth and Evangelism at Mount Olive College; Mr. Gary Burbage, 1989 Superintendent of the Year and superintendent at Sidney Church; Mrs. Dianne Riley, director of Admissions at Mount Olive College and instructor in Christian Education; the Rev. Gary Bailey, former president of the State Convention and pastor of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church; and myself. The Rev. Bass Mitchell, field secretary of the Sunday School Board, served as panel leader.

One truth became most evident throughout the session—there are

many challenges facing the Sunday School during the next decade. Chief among these is the challenge of an overall decline in Sunday School attendance and what can be done to reverse the trend.

Most articles and books dealing with Sunday Schools that have been written in the past ten to twenty years reflect the downward trend. In preparation for the panel discussion, I did some searching for information regarding this trend in our own church.

Our State Sunday School Convention was organized in 1940 at Little Rock Church, Lucama, North Carolina. Eighteen Sunday Schools were represented in that organizational meeting. In the years that followed, the number of schools that represented at the Conventions increased to about 75 to 80 and sometimes more. The average Sunday School enrollment, based on the Sunday School Convention's representation in 1957 was 119; in 1958 the average enrollment was 148, which was the highest of any year that I checked on. In the 1988 Convention, a total of 86 Sunday Schools represented with an average enrollment of 103.

The figures that present a more thorough picture were found in the State Convention's *Yearbooks*. In 1977, 232 churches reported their Sunday School

enrollments with an average of 113. In 1982, 229 Sunday Schools were listed with an average of 102. The 1989 *Yearbook* reported 202 schools with an average of 93. These figures certainly indicate our own church's decline in the Sunday School attendance.

Free Will Baptists, however, are not alone in this dilemma. Win Arn's book, *Growth, a New Vision for the Sunday School*, is concerned with the matter as to how Sunday Schools can experience new growth. Chapter Two, entitled, "Growth: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow . . . Maybe!'", contains graphs showing national Sunday School growth during three periods of time, beginning in 1900 through 1914. During this period attendance increased from 130 to about 190; from 1915 to 1950 attendance increased from 190 to about 265; from 1950 to 1986 the attendance dropped to an average of about 115, with the greatest drop coming from 1964 through 1986.

Dr. Arn writes: "Total Sunday school, church school and Sabbath school enrollment in American churches has declined from 40,508,568 in 1970 to 24,600,000 in 1985, a decline of 60%. This decline, moreover, has occurred in spite of an increasing trend in church growth. Total church membership, during the same period, grew more than 9%. But in nearly every major Protestant denomination, Sunday School/church school enrollment is now rapidly declining."

The solution to the decline is not a simple one. At a time when the forces of evil are aligning themselves more fiercely against the true church, we should be reminded of the power of the Holy Word and once again realize that we have the resource if we would but become willing to tap into it. We need to be optimistic and more enthusiastic, but at the same time we must be willing to pay the

(Turn the Page)

price in time, effort, and giving if we are to turn the tide.

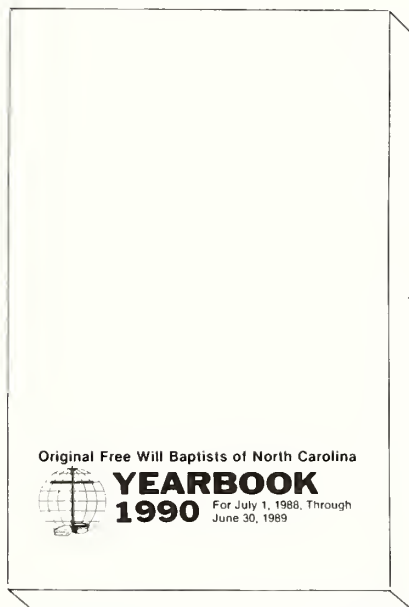
THE STATE CONVENTION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

On March 10, I attended the Free Will Baptist League Convention which was held at the First Church, Goldsboro. Although the number of our churches that have Leagues has declined drastically in recent years, the attendance this year was much greater than in the last several years. Over 90 Leaguers registered at the Convention.

The League program offers a great deal to our churches. Many of us can remember what the League did for us in training us to speak before others, to pray audibly, etc. In fact, its purpose was for training, an area that we have fallen short in for several years.

Space will not allow discussion of this matter in this issue of "Notes and Quotes," but we will get back to it in a later issue.

1990 Yearbooks



Available from Convention Headquarters
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513

For applications, contact the Director in charge of week desired. **ALL YOUTH CAMPS ARE FOR ALL AGES.**

JUNE 11-15

Allen Blount, Director
Box 334
Arapahoe, NC 28510
Phone 298-2526

JUNE 25-27

Woman's Week
Mrs. Mary Dudley, Director
Route 1, Box 430
Deep Run, NC 28525
Phone 658-3311

JULY 2-6

James Gurganus, Director
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570
Phone 223-5251

JULY 9-14

Eva Mae Clark, Director
465 Half Moon Road
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone 637-5346

JULY 16-20

Franklin Baggett, Director
Route 2, Box 100
Belhaven, NC 27810
Phone 964-4402

JULY 30-AUG. 3

Stanley Buck, Director
108 Hope Lodge Street
Tarboro, NC 27886
Phone 832-3964

AUGUST 10-12

"Just Say No" Retreat
Chris Singleton, Director
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518
Phone 298-5320

SEPT. 3-7

Senior Citizen Camp
The Rev. Melvin Everington, Director
Route 4, Box 306
Kinston, NC 28501
Phone 569-7671

For reservations for the camp, contact Ralph Sumner, Route 2, Box 332-D, Pink Hill, NC 28572; or phone, 298-5885.

FEES: \$50, plus \$5 activity fee per week; overnight \$5 per night; mobile campers: \$5 per site, no hookup; \$10 with hookups to water and electricity.

MEALS: Breakfast, \$2.50; Lunch \$3.00; Dinner \$3.50.

April Is . . . Home Missions Month

EASTER SCRAMBLE

Sometimes after reading a story, we are unable to recall many of the little details that made the story so interesting. Details can be very important in helping us picture in our minds exactly what is happening in the story.

How many details do you remember about the arrest, trial, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of Jesus? To help you fill in the blanks in the sentences, the answers are provided. All you have to do is unscramble them!

1. When Judas and a band of men and officers from the chief priests went to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus was praying, they carried _____, _____, and _____ (John 18:3).

peanows

nrstalne

cotserh

2. Peter cut off the _____ of the high priest's servant (John 18:10).

girth rae

3. The soldiers put a _____ robe on Jesus (John 19:2).

rulpep

4. Jesus was crucified on Golgatha, which was called the place of a _____ (John 19:17)

llkus

5. The coat that Jesus wore had no _____ (John 19:23).

smae

6. While hanging on the Cross, Jesus was given _____ to drink (John 19:29).

ragvnie

7. The clothes that the body of Jesus was wrapped in were made of _____ (John 19:40).

nilne

8. While Jesus hung on the Cross, there was darkness over all the earth for _____ hours (Luke 23:44).

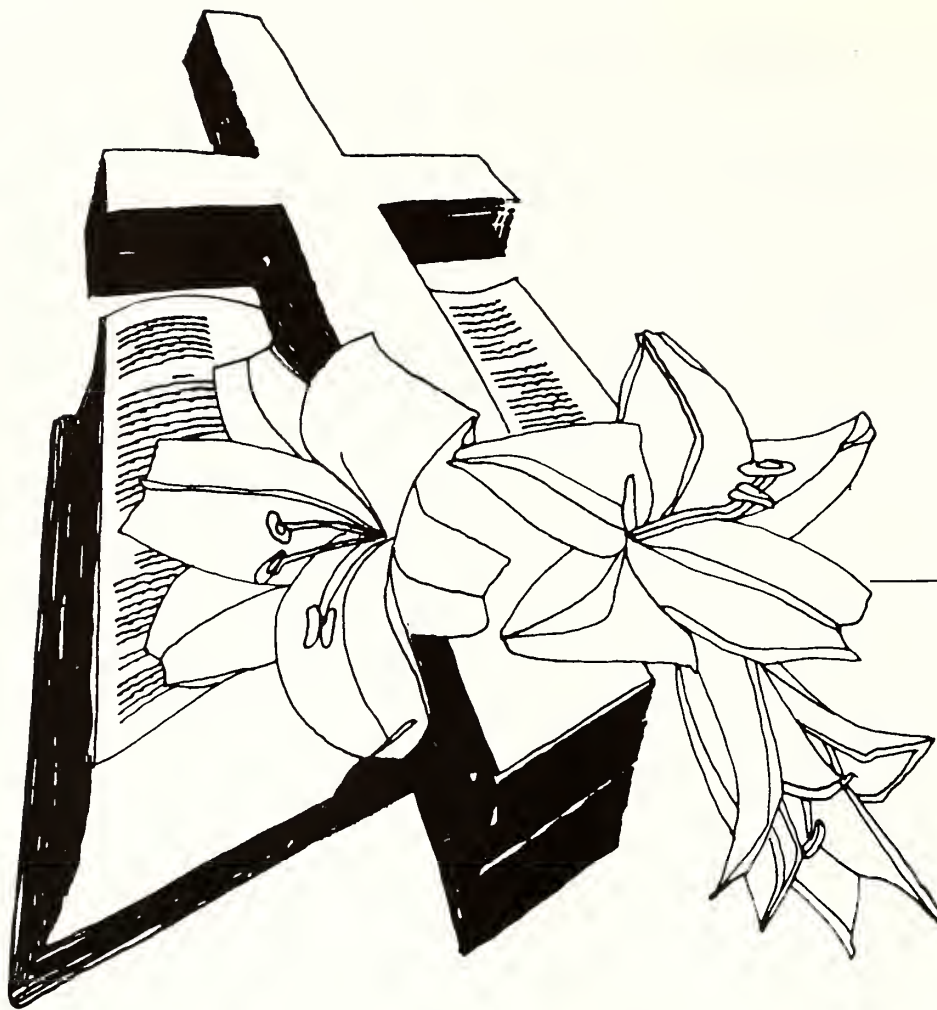
erhet

9. After the Resurrection, Jesus appeared first to _____ (Mark 16:9).

raym damganeel

10. Jesus was buried in the tomb of a rich man named _____, who came from Arimathea (Matthew 27:57).

esjpho



IDEAS FOR CELEBRATING EASTER

New Beginnings: Give each Sunday School student a packet of seeds to plant and an Easter passage to memorize—the length to be determined by the age level of the student. Don't forget your adult members! (You might even want to sponsor an after-church planting of the seeds.) Encourage people to bring back their young plants on Easter and exchange them with one another, sharing the verses they have learned as their plants were growing.

Dramatizing Easter: Present the story of Christ's trials and death as a reader's theater, with people taking the parts of Jesus, the apostles, high priest, Pilate, etc., and others voicing the words of the crowd. This enables students to feel the drama of the events surrounding Christ's death for us on the Cross, and realize that we, too, are responsible for

the sins that put Him there. This is especially poignant when the crowd must shout: "Crucify Him!"

For teens and adults who are familiar with the Easter story, consider using excerpts from Calvin Miller's book, *The Singer* (InterVarsity Press) for reader's theater.

Easter at Home: Send a photographer and reporter to the homes of some of your people. Take slides of the families and ask them questions about their Easter traditions and the meaning of Easter to them. Show these slides and play the edited tapes as an Easter program.

Praise Acrostics: Pick any Easter message. For example: HE IS RISEN. The week before Easter, give children and adults the message with one letter circled. Each person is to write a

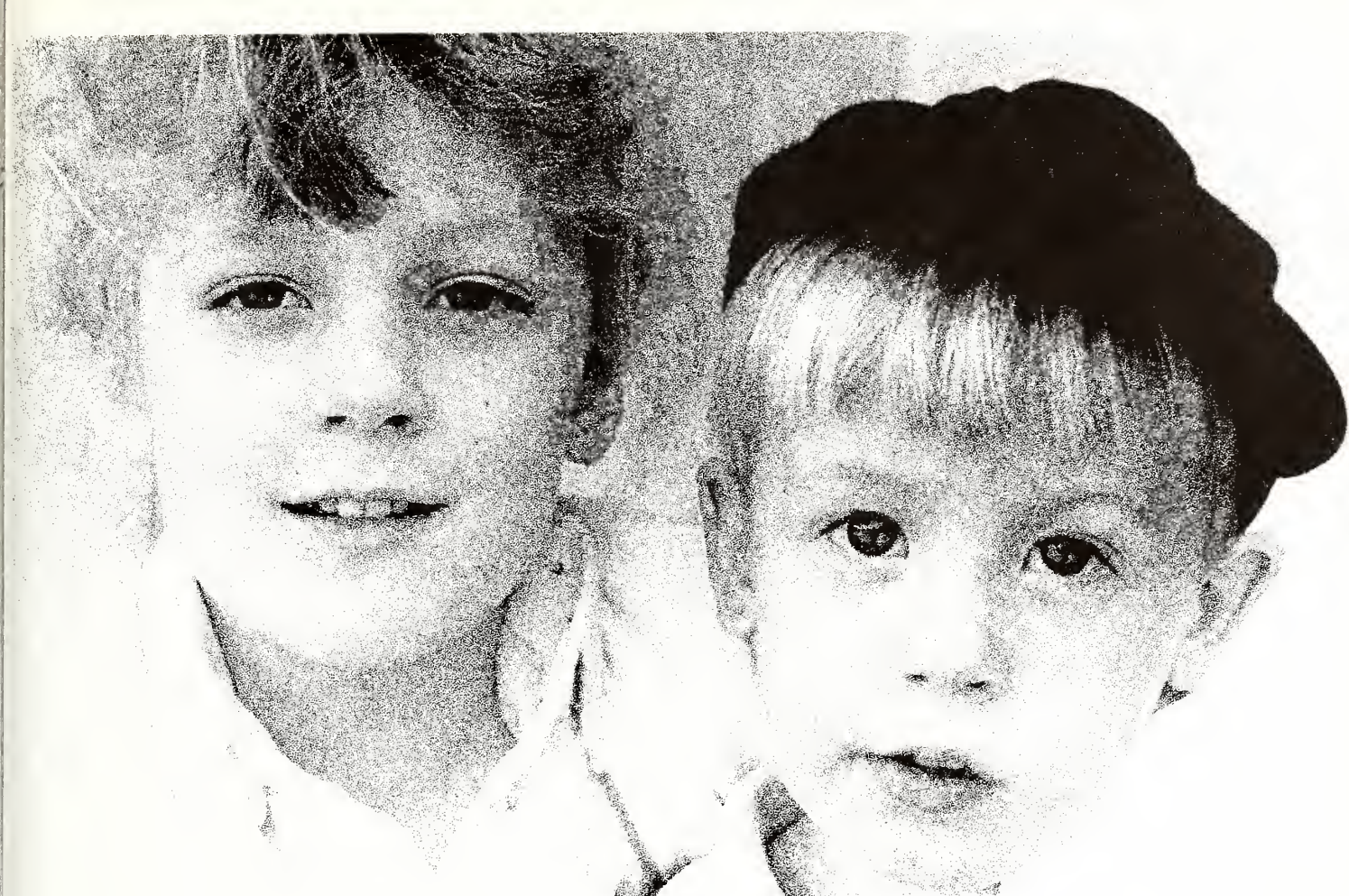
sentence prayer that starts with the circled letter and bring it with him or her to the Easter celebration. Volunteers should read their prayers in order. Volunteers with a prayer beginning with the letter *H* should give theirs before those who start with *E*. More than one person will have each letter.

Consider having students write their sentence prayers under the correct letter on a large bulletin board or sheet of paper covering an entire wall.

Shadowgraph: Use sheets and strong light bulbs to create a life-size shadowgraph screen. With real people and flat, cardboard props, depict the week of Christ's death and Resurrection. Two expressive readers should provide narration.

Provided by David C. Cook Publishing Co.,
850 N. Grove, Elgin, IL 60120.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



TIME FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

- ☐ Curriculum
 - ☐ Theme
 - ☐ Overview
- ☐ Staff
 - ☐ Pre-VBS
 - Publicity
 - Decoration
 - Refreshments
 - Coordinate Crafts
 - Research Games
 - ☐ During VBS
 - Teachers
 - Game Leaders
 - Musicians/Music
 - Closing Program
 - ☐ After VBS
 - Clean-up
 - Follow-up

by Ruth Moblard De Young

"Hey kids! Come to Vacation Bible School!" You've seen the signs crop up as summer approaches. If your church has never run a Vacation Bible School, or had a less than successful experience with it, the questions you ask may be "*Should* we have a Vacation Bible School?" or "*Why* have a Vacation Bible School?" or "*Where* do we start?"

Why Vacation Bible School? Most churches have a Vacation Bible School goal of evangelism—to make new contacts, expand neighborhood participation in Sunday School and weekday church activities, and get new members into the body of Christ. Of course, in the process, they provide a fun and educational activity for both church children and their friends and neighbors.

(Turn the Page)

Once you've decided, "Yes, we'll have a Vacation Bible School," the best first step is to choose the curriculum materials you will use. Since there are so many good courses available for Vacation Bible School, choosing which one is best for you can be a dilemma. First, I suggest looking at the *theme* of a Vacation Bible School course. Does it spark interest? Do the Bible lessons relate to the theme and clarify the main idea? What correlated materials are available to tie in with the theme such as posters and other publicity materials, buttons and t-shirt iron-ons? (In my experiences with Vacation Bible School, the children love to bring in a t-shirt and have the VBS logo ironed on. It is fun to have lots of kids wearing these during VBS. Then they can all wear them for the closing program.) How is the theme carried out in the Bible lessons? Look at the VBS *overview* or summary, which shows what lessons are taught on each day in each age group. Do all of the age levels have the same stories, or different ones? If you plan to do singing as one group, you may prefer to have a curriculum in which all the classes have the same lessons, so that songs can be related to the lessons. If you plan to sing separately by age groups, it will not matter whether all classes have the same lessons or not.

Next, you are ready to examine one lesson at each age level in detail. Look at the teacher's manual and the student workbook together. Does the format of the teacher's manual make it easy to use? Are important points emphasized with underlining or darker print? Are the directions for the teacher easy to understand and follow? Is there an introduction to the lesson to capture the students' interest and lead them into the Bible lesson? Are visual aids suggested or provided for telling the Bible story? Is the



truth of the Bible lesson related back to the students' lives in concrete ways? Are the workbook follow-up activities presented in a fun way such as crossword puzzles or "Find the mystery answer"? (Kids don't want VBS to be too much like school work!) Is the vocabulary of the lesson presentation and workbook activities appropriate for the age level? Are there questions suggested that make kids *think*, not just give back facts? Are there ideas for *active* activities involving student participation such as drama, play-acting the story, role-playing, action songs, singing games and finger plays? Is there group interaction through discussion? Finally, do you feel comfortable with the theological perspective of the material?

If you examine curriculum materials in this way, it will guide you in choosing one for your church's VBS. Bible book stores usually have sample packets of curriculum materials which can be bought on approval for examination and returned if you decide not to use them. You might choose to examine three curricula

by having one person look at each one, and then getting together to compare strengths and weaknesses of the materials and to choose one for your VBS.

Once you have a curriculum chosen, you will want to line up staff for VBS. Make this easier by dividing the work. Have one person recruit craft teachers; another lesson teachers and assistants; and another recreation leaders, refreshment coordinators, and miscellaneous workers. Asking people *personally* has proven to be more effective for us than asking for volunteers to sign up. However, you may get some ideas of people to ask by having everyone in the congregation fill out a check list indicating what they would be willing to do. Include on the list things like "Pray for VBS" and "Donate two dozen cookies" so that those who can't be actively involved can contribute to the effort.

Sometimes the work of planning VBS seems overwhelming. Indeed, a successful VBS takes lots of planning and work. I believe that the secret is to involve many people in smaller, specific tasks. People are afraid of getting overinvolved, but when the responsibilities are carefully defined and limited, they will volunteer more confidently. For example, ask someone to "prepare and lead crafts (or even one craft) for the third graders" or "teach the Bible stories for the fourth graders" or "plan and lead game time for the kindergarten class," rather than asking someone to "work in VBS this summer." In addition to reducing the work involved for any one person, involvement of many workers will help increase attendance. People who are actively involved in preparing for or leading VBS activities will be more likely to enthusiastically invite children whom they know or meet. I know that I get so excited about our VBS program that I take fliers

with me whenever I go to the park or to one of my children's baseball games. As your program develops, you will have to make a list of all the jobs that need doing. Here is a sample list of possible jobs:

Publicity

- Put up a sign in front of the church.
- Take care of newspaper announcements.
- Send out letters about VBS.
- Put up posters.
- Coordinate backyard parties. (More on this later.)

Pre-VBS preparations

- Buy refreshments or contact donors.
- Prepare teaching materials and visual aids.
- Make name tags.
- Decorate rooms.
- Print words for songs on large newsprint pad.
- Plan and coordinate crafts for one age group.
- Research some good games for outdoors and alternatives for indoors.

During VBS

- Register children at the door.
- Teach Bible lessons for one group.
- Assist a lesson teacher with the class.
- Teach one or more specific crafts or crafts to a specific age group.
- Iron on logos on t-shirts.
- Lead game time for a specific age group.
- Lead group singing.
- Play the piano for singing.
- Play another instrument.

AFTER VBS

- Clean up.
- Follow-up.

To have a successful program, you will want to publicize your Vacation Bible School effectively. We have found that the most successful publicity for VBS is

directed to the *children*. For us, delivering advertising fliers door to door has had only minimal results. However, when children have come home with a flier and been enthusiastic about going to VBS, parents were likely to allow them to attend. We accomplished this with a series of backyard parties the week before our VBS started. We asked church members, usually those with children, to have these parties. Each one agreed to provide the backyard, some cookies and a drink. We asked them, with the help of their children, to recruit ten or more children for the party. Our parties were "clown shows." We had high school young people pantomime two or three Bible stories at each party. They wore white clown make-up, which was very effective in accentuating facial expressions. They rehearsed the stories ahead of time and they were narrated as they were presented. (We chose stories other than those we planned to teach in VBS.) A party could feature some other entertainment instead, such as puppets, magic, or even games. After the "show," we told the kids about VBS and gave each child an advertising flier with the details of place, time and dates of our VBS.

Personal invitations are also very effective in getting kids to attend VBS. If each child in your church will ask one or two friends to come, you will begin VBS with a good nucleus. I believe that the key to good attendance is *fun*. If the children enjoy VBS, they will want to ask their friends to come with them the next day. Allow children to take fliers home with them from VBS to give to their friends when they invite them. A small incentive to "bring a friend" (such as a bookmark or picture) may help, but the *most important* thing is to have a good program so kids don't want to miss it!

In our church, our average at-

tendance grew from about 50 the first year to 150 the fourth year, mainly because kids really loved the program and got their friends to come. Of course, once you have a VBS, you will want to mail invitations to all who attended the previous year, and to children who have attended any other church programs you have for children.

The craft period is something children really look forward to and enjoy. Try to use crafts which children can really do themselves. For younger children, the enjoyment of and involvement in the process of making the craft is even more important than the finished product. For this reason, it makes no sense to use a craft for which teachers must do most of the work. For older children, although the appearance of the finished craft is more important than with younger children, they want and need the satisfaction of doing it themselves. So in choosing crafts, keep in mind the capabilities of the children.

We find it works well to have the craft teacher set up everything for the craft while the children are having refreshments and recreation. The leader lays out supplies, and everything is ready to go when the children come back inside. For each craft, especially messy ones, think through ahead of time exactly what the clean-up procedure will be. Explain this to the children when the craft is explained. It is helpful to plan some activity for those who finish the craft early. This could be helping with clean-up, or just paper and crayons for coloring. (Don't make this activity too appealing, or children will rush through their craft to get to it.) For older children, if the craft period is the final activity of the day, they may be able to be excused when they are done. If you are using the same craft for more than one group, you might have one person

(Turn the Page)

lead that craft for both groups on different days. Because we are constantly adding new children as VBS progresses, we prefer to use mostly one-day craft projects to avoid having different children at all various stages of a project.

For crafts, there are two ways to go. Buying craft kits is one option. Many publishers of VBS materials make these available to coordinate with the lessons. This is one plus, because it is ideal if the craft can be related to the lesson of the day. This method is also convenient for craft leaders, since all materials are included. This approach may be more costly than buying bulk materials for crafts. Some VBS materials provide booklets of craft suggestions. These involve locating sources of materials and doing some experimenting with procedures, but often the results are more satisfying.

If weather permits, we find it easy and convenient to serve the children a snack of juice and cookies outside. Tables can be moved to the church parking lot or yard and there is no worry about spills and cookie crumbs. We also ask the same people who serve refreshments during VBS to serve refreshments to parents and friends after our closing program.

You may be tempted to give the children "recess" or just a chance to play outside during recreation time. However, if you have separate people responsible for game time, you can give the teachers a break and still have an organized playtime. We stagger our recreation times so that younger children and older children have it at different times. Children have plenty of "free play" time in the summer, and I feel it is important to organize recreation time during VBS. Although children have favorite games, it really adds interest if the leader can find some new and different games, especially for



the older children. There are many good books of games available. It is especially good for shy, quiet children to have a chance to participate in organized games. When children organize games themselves, some children are left on the sidelines. It takes an adult or older young person to organize games in such a way to include everyone. Of course, if a child really wants to just watch at first, he shouldn't be forced to participate.

There are various ways we've found and used to add interest to our VBS program. One of them is to use the VBS theme as a basis for decorating the room where the children gather for singing. Even if decorations can't be tied into the theme, something with bright colors, such as balloons and streamers, can add to the happy feeling. You might even add some decorations to the classrooms. For many Bible stories, you can find pictures and/or props that can add interest to the classroom and also help to present the lesson at the same time. For instance, when we had the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal in our VBS, we covered two large cardboard boxes with brown wrapping paper, and then sketched some rocks on the paper to make the boxes look like altars. Above one of the "altars" we hung a large

flame cut from table cloth paper and spray-painted yellow and orange. This was then rigged in such a way that by pulling the string, the teacher could make the flame come down on the "altar." After hearing the story, the children got to act out the story using the two altars and the flame.

Another area in which to add interest is music. VBS curricula usually have songs provided, but if you know of other songs that fit in and have good words and catchy tunes, by all means add them. We find that the children love to sing if the songs are appealing and enthusiastically taught. If possible, let the children hear a song first from a record or tape, or sung by some children or teachers who know it. Have words for the songs printed on a large pad of newsprint in front so that the children can look up at the song leader while reading the words. Use of other instruments in addition to the piano is fun. Kids respond well to action songs. When children come early, we start singing together as soon as there are enough there, perhaps 10-15 minutes before the actual starting time of VBS.

It may seem like it would be difficult to put on a program with a group of children after only five to ten mornings together. However, don't think of it as a "program," but rather as a finale to VBS. Having a closing program for your VBS is an effective way to meet the parents of VBS students and get them acquainted with your church and some of the people in it. The children are not giving polished "performances," but rather are just *sharing* something that has come out of the teaching-learning process during VBS. For younger children, this is often a finger play, a simple song or a singing game that was used to reinforce a lesson. Older children sometimes present a song they've learned in class (an extra one,

which other classes haven't learned), or they may act out a Bible story or part of one. Whatever the class teacher chooses to do for the program should be something that the children have done and enjoyed as part of their regular class activities. For instance, one year I taught a class of second graders. When we learned the story of the Philippian jailer, the flannelgraph story was finished early. Using cardboard chains, which were in the room for use with the story, I had the children take turns acting out the parts of Paul, Silas, the jailer and the prison guards. This activity was such a hit that we did it over and over until all the children had had chances to participate. It was

about a three-minute skit which we could then share with parents for the closing program without any practice.

We ask teachers to keep the closing program in mind during the week. The day before the program, the teachers tell the VBS director what their classes will be doing. These class contributions are interspersed with songs that everyone has learned and Bible verses that have been memorized and that constitutes our program. We go through the program only once before it is presented. After the VBS on the last day, we invite the children to bring lunches. We provide a beverage. Depending on your time schedule, the rehearsal can be either just before or after

the picnic. We find it easier to have the rehearsal before the picnic so that none go home, so we shorten our craft and recreation periods slightly on the last day.

Vacation Bible School is a really exciting time for me personally. It's exciting to see all the children streaming into our church each morning and joyfully singing together. It's especially thrilling to teach my class each morning and have many children who do not already know the Bible stories, and who do not know Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Introducing children to the Lord Jesus is really what Vacation Bible School is all about!

Reprinted from *Teachertips*, January/February 1990.



FRIENDimension

Where Jesus Is Made Real And Friends Can Be Made Forever!

Vacation Bible School Materials
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Kinston, Wilson and New Bern.

1990 VBS Program

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Kenneth Hardison has
a new address. It is as follows:
Route 1, Box 259-E, Rockingham,
NC 28379.

News

Anyone having a Cragmont
room key is asked to return it
to the following address:

Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Camp Vandemere LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS CLUB



The Camp Vandemere Lighthouse Keepers Club is a group of interested and committed supporters of the camp. Their purpose is to help Camp Vandemere to be a place of worship and retreat for Free Will Baptists. We hope to create a feeling of participation among the members of the local churches and to have a cash flow that will help better the camp facilities.

By being a part of this vital ministry you will become a partner in the camp's visions to see lost people won to the Lord and saved people grow in His love and knowledge. You will also receive a decorative certificate symbolizing your support of the camp. In addition you will also have the privilege of sending one individual to any scheduled camp, or sending two individuals to a weekend retreat, or spending one week as a mobile camper with water and electric hookup.

Camp Vandemere has a new treasurer. We are requesting all donations be sent to him.

The Rev. Franklin Baggett, Treasurer
Route 2, Box 100
Belhaven, NC 27810

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Outstanding

May 1990

The Free Will Baptist

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Notes and Quotes

23

Children's Corner

24

A Cold That the Fire Will Not Warm

31



May 1990

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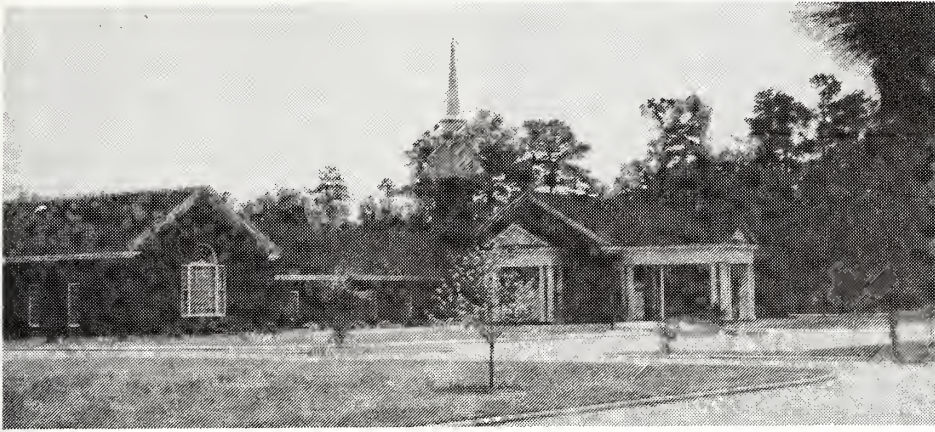
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WINTERVILLE CHURCH RETIRES NOTE

by the Rev. Doug Skinner

On Sunday, March 25, 1990, Winterville Church celebrated a special service of thanksgiving to commemorate retiring the note on our church. The service was filled with praises to God for allowing us to achieve this goal. Dr. Don Ribeiro led the congregation in a praise responsive reading. Special guest Tommy Langston from First Citizens Bank presented the trustees of the church with the note marked paid in full. Mr. Dudley Shoe, of Dudley, Shoe, and Ellingwood, the architect of our building, was a special guest in our service. The Rev. Ed Taylor, the pastor during our building program, was also present to offer a special prayer of thanksgiving. The Rev. Doug Skinner, pastor, delivered a message of praise to God for all of His many blessings. The congregation and their guests enjoyed a meal and fellowship.

Winterville Church was organized on November 7, 1905, and its first home was on the corner of Depot and Chapman Streets. After meeting in this building for almost eighty years, the new building was built on the corner of Cooper Street and Glendale Avenue, a three and one-half acre lot which was purchased in 1972 for \$17,500.

The new facility was completed in three phases. Phase I, which consisted of the outside completion, cost approximately \$307,500 and was paid for with funds on hand. It was completed in October 1982. The completion for the educational wing and the fellowship hall, Phase II, needed a loan of \$67,000 to complete. The first service was held on March 11, 1984, in the fellowship hall. Phase III, the sanctuary, was completed in October 1985 with a loan of \$165,000. The first worship service in the new sanctuary was held November 10, 1985.

The final payment on these loans was made January 11, 1990. The cost of the church including, church and site improvements, furnishings, etc. (many were given by members, classes, and others) and interest on notes was \$735,976.18.

Today's estimates place the value of the church property at one million dollars.

This is truly a time for praise to God and thanksgiving for His blessings throughout this project. Those who served on Improvement Committees during the planning and construction of the facility were: Bill Churchill, Claudie McLawhorn, William Nobles, Jewell Lawrence, Louise Hines, Doris Weathersby, Alton Hines, and Randolph Harris (deceased). The members of this church gave of themselves, their time, their money, and their talents, for this building to be used for the glory of God.

SMITH'S NEW HOME CHURCH MAKES IMPROVEMENTS Steeple Added

by Annie Ruth Parrish

On September 24, 1989, the members of Smith's New Home Church held their annual homecoming service. In the afternoon a dedicational service was held for the newly installed steeple, which had been given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Grainger Hill. The litany service was well attended by family and friends.

Grainger's father, Henry Hill, was a charter member of Smith's New Home Church. Grainger became a member early in his life and was a faithful, active member until his last few years, when health problems prevented his attendance. He was ordained as a deacon in 1949 and remained active through 1983. He was very active in the building and maintenance of the building, as well as in the church's spiritual growth. Mrs. Hill, Oma, held various teaching positions through the years in the Sunday School, Bible school and in the Woman's Auxiliary programs. She was always a willing servant, helping to keep the Lord's house in order and preparing food for special occasions. Their home was open to pastors and visiting evangelists. Overnight stays were frequent.

Grainger and Oma reared five children, all of whom were brought up in Smith's New Home Church. God was good to them. Through faith in God, hard work and careful planning, they were able to survive the depression years and to provide their children an education.

"Just as Joshua established a marker where his people crossed over Jordan, and as our Lord said, 'Let your light shine before men,'

(Turn the Page)



we, the children of Grainger and Oma Hill, have installed this steeple to mark this place as the gathering of God's people in the memory of our parents. For the life and witness of our mother and daddy, we are grateful. We are conscious of the sacrifices which they made through the years. Their example of Christian living and sharing are uplifting to us. May this steeple serve as a constant reminder of the obligations resting upon us. May we, their children, experience a purer life and a deeper loyalty of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"May this steeple as it points heavenward remind all who look upon it that in the person of Jesus Christ there is comfort for the sorrowing, strength for the weak, cheer for the downcast, hope for the despairing, friendship for the forlorn and eternal life for the believer.

"May God receive glory is our prayer."

Porch Constructed and Dedicated

by Happy R. Taylor, Auxiliary President —

Since March 1988, the Woman's Auxiliary at Smith's New Home Church has seen in reality that "women working together in

Christian service," can accomplish great things. Our number is small—we have 14 members in our auxiliary—but the fellowship is great.

We decided at that time to adopt a church improvement project and to simply work until our funds were adequate. In September 1989, we felt we had reached our goal and we were ready to begin. We had raised enough money to add an addition to the front of the building. We submitted our plans to the church body at the quarterly conference. The church immediately approved and within a few weeks, the work was completed. On March 4, 1990, the new addition was dedicated to honor God. The service was under the direction of the pastor, the Rev. Walter Sutton.

Smith's New Home Church was organized on August 24, 1895, and a small one-room building served the congregation for 49 years. In March 1944, plans were made to begin a new and larger building. When this building was completed, the dedication sermon was given by the Rev. J. R. Bennett. His text was taken from Psalm 96:6, "Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary."

It was in that same spirit that the new addition was dedicated. It has been 46 years since our present building was completed and 95 years since our beginning. Still, we can say with the psalmist, "Honor and majesty are before Him, strength and beauty are in His sanctuary."

We are grateful to our auxiliary members who instigated the project, planned the addition and worked so faithfully by raising the funds. Also, we are grateful to the entire church family who supported the project with their gifts and time. May God continue to bless our church here at Smith's New Home.

MR. TYSON HARDY CREECH HONORED

by Howard Starling —

Recently, Mr. Tyson Hardy Creech was honored by La Grange Church for his many years of service. Mr. Creech and his wife, Laurah, have made a place for themselves in the history of Original Free Will Baptists by their selfless devotion to the work of the local church.

A brief history of Mr. Creech's life and ministry has been accepted by the Moye Library at Mount Olive College for the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection. The following are excerpts from that document.

Mr. Tyson Hardy Creech was born on December 21, 1915. He left school in the eighth grade to enter the work force and later became successful in the construction business.

At first, Mr. Creech attended White Oak Grove Church. There he met Laurah Howell. Miss Howell and Mr. Creech were married on November 24, 1934. That same year, the newlyweds began attending La Grange Church. They have two children: Naomi and Warren, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Nineteen sixty was a critical period in Mr. Creech's life. The

doctors who were caring for him at the time told him that he had a rare form of leukemia and would live only six months; however by the mercy and grace of God, he has survived. Leukemia has continued to plague him all these years.

There have been other medical complications as well. For instance, for all legal and practical purposes, he was blind for twelve years. Then medical advances made it possible, through numerous surgical procedures, to regain sight in one eye. He began driving again, and reading became a favorite pasttime.

Mr. and Mrs. Creech have been active in the La Grange Church from the beginning of their marriage. Both sang in the choir and from time to time she played the piano.

He taught Sunday School classes from 1943 until 1986. He was superintendent of the Sunday School from March 17, 1946, until 1949. Over the years, Mr. Creech has served on numerous committees, and during December 1946, was ordained a deacon of the church.

He was honored by the Women's Auxiliary of the church in 1967, when the Creech Circle was formed.

During his years of service, there have been times when it was difficult to keep the church operational. During one period of struggle, Mr. Creech had built a house on Charles Street in La Grange. He had just enough money (\$150) to buy a hot water heater for the home. At the same time, the church needed a new heating system. Instead of a water heater, he gave the money for the heating unit.

On April 13, 1975, Mr. Creech purchased some land that included a lot for a new church. Later, it was decided that construction would begin on the new property at 802 South Caswell Street. At that point, he drew up



plans on a piece of a cardboard box for a facility which would meet the needs of our congregation. Mr. Creech was appointed chairman of the Building Committee. His persistence, dedication and leadership saw the building through to its completion on November 21, 1976.

He has worked with numerous pastors and is loved and respected

by them and all the members of our congregation.

Mr. Kenneth Bartlett echoed the sentiments of the congregation when he said, "I am convinced that God commissioned you to build His church here as much as I am that He commissioned Noah to build the ark."

Amen.

SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen

The person honored as senior citizen for the month of March by the Adult Class of Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, was Mrs. Novella Stokes.

Before coming to Pleasant Hill Church, she was a member of Black Jack Church. She was 23 years of age when "God answered her call and adopted her into the family of God." She began attending our church in 1957, shortly after she married Ottis Stokes.

Novella has been a very active member serving with The Beginners Class for nine years. She has served as assistant teacher of The Willing Workers Class but at present is president as well as assistant teacher of The Adult Class. She has served well in the Woman's Auxiliary holding the of-

fice of president and at present is vice president and treasurer.

On June 11, 1989, Novella was ordained a deaconess by the Rev. C. L. Patrick. She has proven her worth because she visits the shut-ins, patients in the hospital and nursing homes each week. She holds prayer meetings and fills in wherever she is needed. She says, "Nothing is as important to me as the people I love and the time I spend with them because my church comes first."

I personally have named her the *cake lady* because if you have a death, sickness, or most anything, it gives her an opportunity to make a delicious cake and carry it to you. She also always heads the committee for desserts on church social occasions.

(Turn the Page)



Novella Stokes

In 1940, Novella was the Chicod Beauty Queen and was selected as the Mother of the Year at Pleasant Hill in 1977. She is married to Ottis Stokes and they have one son, Greg, and a granddaughter, Erin.

Personally, Novella has meant so much to me because she has driven me to Duke Hospital so many times, leaving Ayden at 5 a.m. She has been an encouragement in my sickness. In fact, we are prayer partners; and if either one of us has a problem and needs prayer, we call the other and either ask that we get a prayer chain going or kneel and pray right then asking God to solve, heal, or bless our needs. She has shared food, material and monetary things with me.

There was a delightful coffee hour to honor her and a beautiful red bouquet presented to her on Sunday, March 25.

She requests your prayers for her and family that they may glorify God even more.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Wooten's Chapel Church, Wake County, NC, is in need of a pastor for Sunday morning and Wednesday night services. A parsonage is available if desired. Interested individuals are asked to contact Margaret Lassiter Warren at (919) 772-0722.

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE UPDATE

by John Newton

On March 5, the Central Conference Layman's League held its quarterly conference meeting at the Tarboro Church, located on Hope Lodge Street in Tarboro, NC, with a meal of B-B-Q pork served by the host church, with the business session beginning at 8 p.m.

There were 126 men present, 17 were pastors, representing twenty-five (25) churches in the Central Conference. The next meeting of the Central Conference Layman's League will be at the Rose of Sharon Church on June 4. A meal will be served at 7 p.m., with the business session to begin at 8 p.m.

If you have a Layman's League or Men's Fellowship at your church, we invite you to attend our next meeting and become a part of the Layman's League in your conference. Let's unite for the cause of Christ through our men in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

On March 24, the Central Conference Layman's League was proud to honor their ladies with another Ladies Night, hosted by Rose Hill Church. We are so proud and honored to have such wonderful ladies within the Central Conference and it was a pleasure to honor them again this year. We had a fine meal of barbecued pork and chicken, served by the "King from under the Dome in Ayden," Jones' B-B-Q. The entertainment was provided by the Soldiers of the Cross from King's Cross Roads Church. This is a young new group with a tremendous message of the Lord. (Be on the lookout for more from them in the future!)

The Layman's League would like to give special thanks to Rose Hill Church, Delano Wilson, the Rev. Leon Harris, Elmer Harrell and all who contributed, especially all that attended, 175 Free Will

Baptists who helped to make this another date to remember for the Central Conference Layman's League.

Dates to Remember: May 5, Eagles Nest Sing; June 2, Spiritual Life Retreat, guest speakers, the Revs. Harold Jones and Ray Wells.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The May 5 meeting of the Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will be hosted by First Church, Goldsboro. The meeting will begin at 7:30.

All Cape Fear youth are encouraged to attend.

ANNUAL SESSION PLANNED

The Sixty-third Annual State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet on Thursday, May 10, at Oak Grove Church, Route 4, Bladenboro, North Carolina, hosted by the Pee Dee District.

THEME: WE ARE CALLED

THEME SCRIPTURE: "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called" (Ephesians 4:1)

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"
- Prayer for the Success of the Convention
- Welcome, Nancy Hardee, president of Pee Dee Convention
- Response, Jean Marlow, Western Conference
- Announcements/Directions, Linda Bryan, president, Oak Grove Auxiliary
- President's Greetings
- Business Session
- 10:25—Hymn, "O, Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"
- Morning Message, Marice Debruhl, Eastern Conference
- Special Music
- 11:10—Memorial Service, Carolyn Jernigan, Cape Fear

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

- Special Music
- 11:30—Life Membership
- 11:45—Hymn, "Amazing Grace"
- Morning Offering
- Special Recognition of Denominational Representatives
- 12:00—Lunch Announcement
- Benediction

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Theme Song, "O, Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"
- Message, Helen Beaman, Central Conference
- Special Music, Avary Brisson, Pee Dee Conference
- 1:35—Miscellaneous Business
- Reports
- Installation of Officers
- Hymn, "Help Somebody Today"
- Benediction

The Convention lunch will be catered by The Front Porch Restaurant of Elizabethtown. The cost of the meal is \$4.15 per person. This includes dessert and drinks.

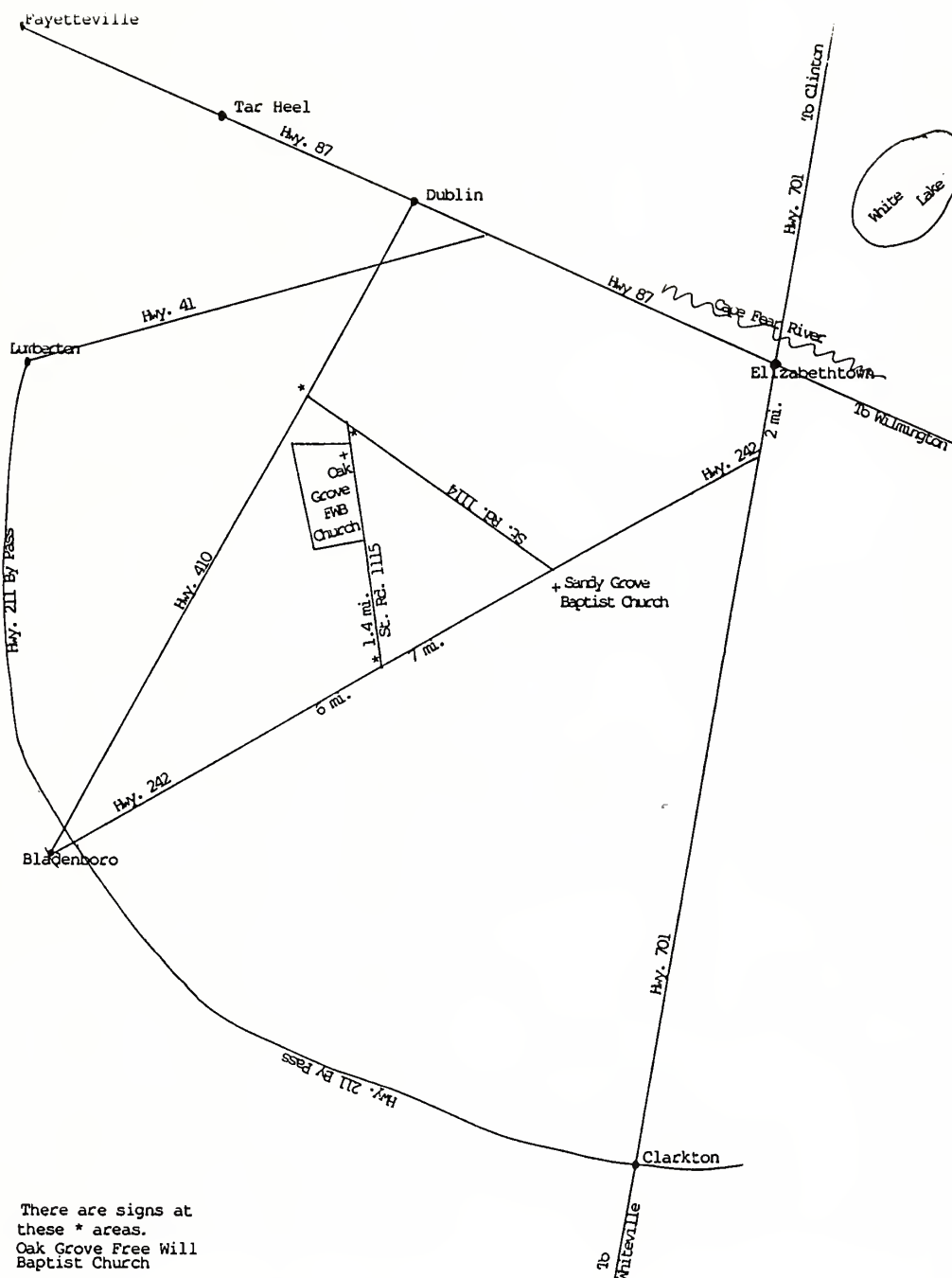
For those that will be staying overnight, there are motels available.

Goldston's Motel (Contact person, Jill Womble)
 White Lake (waterfront)
 Phone: Motel—(919) 862-4064
 Home—(919) 862-3504
 Room Rate: Double—\$40-\$45
 Single—\$34

(Call for reservations as soon as possible)

Day's Inn
 Lumberton, NC
 Phone: 1-800-325-2525

Holiday Inn
 I-95, Lumberton, NC
 Phone: (919) 738-4261



There are signs at these * areas.
 Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church

STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

May 10, 1990

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church
 Bladenboro, NC



LEND SUPPORT FOR PROGRAM

The Men's Sunday School Class of Smith's New Home Church is helping to underwrite a monthly cash support package for Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton who was recently received into the care of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes ministry. Other churches uniting in this effort are Sarecta, Laniers Chapel, Pearsall's Chapel, Verona, Sandy Plain, and Deep Run Auxiliary.

Pictured left to right are Clifton Parrish, Lonnie Blizzard, J. B. Blizzard, Allen Smith, Herman Hill, Larry Jones, Durwood Mills, Robert L. Smith, Danny Davis, Rudolph Davis, and the Rev. Walter J. Sutton, pastor. Members not pictured are Edward Hill, Dallas Stroud, Randall Humphrey, John Taylor and Ray Mervin.

GRIFFIN

BROTHERHOOD TO MEET

The Griffin Brotherhood will meet on May 4 at the Southern Belle Restaurant, Mount Olive. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

VELMA GRAY MORRIS DAY

by Lue Rhe Gatlin

Sunday, February 18, 1990, was designated as Miss Velma Gray Morris Day at Juniper Chapel Church, Route 2, Vanceboro, NC. She was presented a corsage and a plaque for her many years of service. Lue Rhe Gatlin presented a biography of her life.

Velma Gray was born February 1, 1918. Her parents were Simmie and Eula Morris. Her older sister was Clara Belle Patterson, who is now deceased, and her younger sister is Vera Lee Morris, who is also very active in our church. Velma Gray had a twin sister named Thelma Mae who only lived about three weeks.

Velma Gray entered the first grade at the Juniper Chapel

School, which was located across the road from where our church is now located. Her first teacher was Mrs. Mabel Joyner, who was present with us for this special day. I talked with Mrs. Joyner and this is what she said, "She was a very smart little girl." The school only had two rooms with none of the modern conveniences, not even school buses. She completed seven grades at this school. She entered Farm Life High School in Vanceboro in the 8th grade and graduated in 1934.

After graduation, Velma returned back to the Juniper Chapel School, which had been replaced with a larger building (where our church stands today). A lunchroom had been added and she worked in the lunchroom until the school was closed and moved to Vanceboro, where she also worked in the lunchroom until around 1953 when her sister Vera opened a restaurant in Vanceboro (near the stoplight). Velma went to work with her. Later they moved into a new building in Mor-

ris Plaza. She worked there until she and her sister Vera retired December 31, 1981. She served many hotdogs and hamburgers during those years. Vera did not quit work on her retirement. She helps clean our church each week and still cooks a lot of pies and cakes. Velma never refuses when we need food for a sick person or a bereaved family.

Velma has always played an active role in our church. She has not always owned a car but she was just as faithful when she had to walk to church. I remember spending nights in her home when I was growing up and how we walked to church in the rain and cold. Velma served as youth leader and director of our Christmas programs for many years. Let me say she had to walk to the church for practice and we had no heating system. She would help build a fire after we got to the church.

Velma Gray accepted the Lord at home one night and did not want to wait to be baptized. So her mother called Brother George Allen Anderson, a lay speaker at our church at that time, and he baptized her in the Folly Creek that night.

No one seems to remember just when she started teaching Sunday School, but it was several years ago. Many she has taught have gone on into eternity. Everyone knows she is a very good teacher.

Velma Gray was elected president of the first Ladies Aid organized at our church. She served in this office for many years and is now treasurer of our Woman's Auxiliary. Velma Gray is always willing to fill in when we do not have a piano player. She is a real asset to our choir and in the past she helped with a lot of special singing. Velma Gray never married and had children but she has played the role of mother and grandmother well.

She has been Secretary of the Eastern Conference Sunday School Convention for many years.

She has been our speaker on prayer meeting nights when we were without a pastor and spoke at many of our special services at our church.

Velma Gray is willing to pick up members of our church without a car and bring them to church. I have seen her many times slip a bill of money in a preacher's hand when she felt the need was there. It seems when everyone else was busy she could prepare Sunday dinner for visiting ministers. She has attended our Cragmont Assembly for the Women's Conference since 1954. Since she retired, she spends a lot of time studying, reading and likes basketball games on TV. At present she is treasurer of our auxiliary, a Sunday School teacher, treasurer of the District Woman's Auxiliary and on the Board of Directors of Cragmont. God has blessed Velma in so many ways—she even enjoys mowing grass.

Velma stands out as a Christian in any group. We appreciate her so very much. She doesn't give up when it gets hard—she just prays a little harder.

We as a church wish her God speed and love her very much.

MEETING SCHEDULED

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet Monday, May 21, at 10 a.m. at First Church, Kinston, NC (room 201).

All persons having business with the Board are asked to be present.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Having accepted the call of God into the ministry and having been licensed by the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists through Everett Chapel Church, I am available for the service of the Lord through supply work, evangelistic service, pastoring, or in whatever areas the Lord leads. You may contact me at this address: Charles Petit, 2014 Penny Lane, Clayton, NC

27520; or by telephone, 919-553-5741.

MARSH SWAMP AUXILIARY RECOGNIZES TWO FOR SERVICE



The time to be happy is now,
The place to be happy is here,
The way to be happy is to make
other people happy.

These phrases were quoted by Miss Frances Boyette on Sunday morning, April 8, prior to awarding two ladies of the March Swamp Woman's Auxiliary Life Membership Certificates and Life Award Pins.

Both of these ladies were very active in fund-raising projects in the forties when the church was being renovated and the parsonage being built. Both have children who are still very active today in church finances. For many years they served as delegates to auxiliary conventions and hostesses in their homes for auxiliary meetings.

One of the recipients was Mrs. Blonnie Stott, who is the oldest living auxiliary member (who had never received the award). She joined the auxiliary in the thirties and was elected vice president in 1938. She served on the Social Committee for many years.

The second recipient, Mrs. Eula Boyette, has been an auxiliary member for 55 years. Mrs. Boyette served on the Nominating

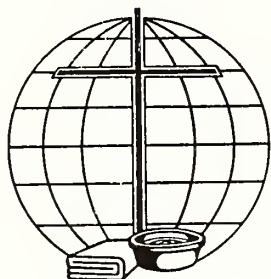
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Celebrate Homecoming With the
Members and Friends of Sydney Church
on Their 100th Anniversary
August 26, 1990

Committee, Orphanage Committee and as Benevolence Chairman for many years. She was also a Vacation Bible School teacher for many years. It was also noted that on March 18, 1943, Mrs. Boyette representing Marsh Swamp Church, helped the Salvation Army serve food to World War II soldiers as they passed through Wilson.

These ladies are to be commended for what they have done in the past as neighbors in the community and workers in their church. They are still very loyal in attendance at auxiliary meetings, Sunday School and church services.



PATRICK CONDUCTS REVIVAL

The members of Winterville Church were delighted to have the Rev. C. L. Patrick conduct their revival services, March 19-23, 1990. This was a reminiscent time for him. I just a few weeks he would celebrate his 50th anniversary of re-birth.

Mr. Patrick was saved in the Winterville Church in April 1940. It was largely by the witness and example of his wife, Clara, that he was saved. (They have been married for 52 years). He has pastored the following churches: Greenville, Dawson's Grove, Pleasant Hill, Rose Hill, Smith's New Home, Grimsley, Free Union (30 years), Bethany, and is presently pastoring White Oak Grove.

After the service on Friday night, everyone gathered for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

WILSON SENIOR ADULTS ARE "FULLY ALIVE"



The Senior Citizen's Fellowship at First Church, Wilson, is "Fully Alive" as they meet every other Tuesday for fellowship and different activities. Recently they were ministered to through the video series, "Strengthening Your Grip," by Charles Swindoll. There were six films shown to challenge their thinking, to help them discover new ideas, and to give them practical support for Christian growth and living. By strengthening their hold on the basics of Christian faith, hope can be theirs to share with the world.

Pictured above are some of the visitors and members of the fellowship: pastor, Craig Simmons; president, Hilda Sasser, with the Rev. Raymond Sasser; vice president, Jenny Hayes; secretary/treasurer, Eunice Boykin; Betsy Horton, J. R. and Daphne Brinkley, Hubert and Ruth Fulcher, Belle Cates, Lucille Poythress, Sam Pittman, Queenie Kerns, Charles Howell, Narcissus Strickland, Esther Sasser, Mozelle Price, Sallie Leonard, Clifton and Ruth Bailey, Kathleen Pipkin, Sam and Christine Pittman, Nellie Page, Beulah Eatmon, and Dow Beaman.



The Rev. and Mrs. Patrick, the Rev. Doug Skinner, pastor



Annual Gospel Music Festival

**Eagles Nest Conference Center
Located Near Mount Olive, NC**

Saturday, May 5

Singing From 9:30 A.M.—3:30 P.M.

Featuring

The New Life Singers	of Wilson
The Watchmen Quartet	of Fremont
Born Again	of Kinston
Moving Up Quartet	of Greenville
Bobbie Ann Proctor	of Fremont

Lunch . . .

Wilber's BBQ of Goldsboro will cater lunch, or you
can bring a picnic.

FREE ADMISSION



Sponsored by the North Carolina State Layman's League

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION

May 18, 19, 20, 1990
Mount Olive College

GENERAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 18

4:30- 6:30—Registration

6:30—Meeting With All Talent
Participants in Chapel (ONLY PERFORMERS)
NO SUPPER WILL BE SERVED FRIDAY NIGHT

8:00—Talent Competition in College Hall

Saturday, May 19

7:30—Breakfast

8:30—Registration, College Hall (If Not Registered)

9:00-10:00—Business Session
(Campaigning and Voting for New Officers)

10:30-12:00—Competitions

1:30—Business Session and Installation of Officers

5:15- 6:30—Reception for All First Place District Winners

7:00—Entertainment and Awards Ceremony

Sunday, May 20

8:00—Breakfast

10:00—Morning Worship in Chapel



DOUG BERKY
Special Convention Guest

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meal tickets may be purchased on Friday night upon arrival (\$2, breakfast; \$3, lunch, supper).

Must be registered to vote and registration fee paid.

Guests should bring their own pillows, blankets, linens, towels, soap, money for meals, snacks, Bible, notebook, pencil and casual clothes.

Rooms will be assigned as received. Will only honor those with money included.

Money for lodging must be sent with a \$25 registration fee (per church) by May 1, 1990.

NO REFUNDS.

NO candy, gum, etc. may be used in campaigning.

NO skateboards, water guns, and shaving cream will be allowed. Youth leaders are responsible for their own Cherubs, AFC'ers and YFA'ers.

Bring change for drink machines. There will not be a Pepsi wagon this year.

Christian Writing and Art and Crafts must be registered by 6 Friday night.

Name of Church _____

Address _____

Please give address and phone number of person we may contact to answer questions about your group's registration:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Names of adults supervising young people staying overnight at the Convention (at least one adult male and one adult female; and they must be supervised at all times!):

Total number of youth and adults lodging overnight.

	Total	x \$6	Total
Friday			
Males (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Males (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____
Females (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Females (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____

Saturday

Males (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Males (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____
Females (12 and under)	_____	_____	_____
Females (13 and up)	_____	_____	_____

Registration fee (per church) \$25.00

Total amount enclosed _____

Total number of youth and adults eating meals provided by MOC cafeteria.

	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	_____	_____
Lunch	_____	_____
Supper	_____	_____

Meal tickets sold at College Hall on Friday, 5 P.M.

Emergency numbers for reaching Youth Convention are:

658-5056, 658-5057, 658-9220

Dorm at night 658-9772

Registration forms, lodging money and registration fee should be sent to: Joan H. Little, Route 2, Box 347-C, Farmville, NC 27828; phone, 919/753-3217

May 1990



CRAGMONT JUBILEE

The Cragmont Board of Directors met February 19, 1990, at the Free Will Baptist Press for its annual meeting. One item that should have great impact upon Cragmont is what will be called "Cragmont Jubilee."

The year 1995 marks Cragmont's 50th anniversary. Thoughts naturally turned toward planning some sort of celebration in honor of our 50th year. All of the members of the Board agreed that the greatest celebration of all would be if Cragmont were debt free. Out of this thinking came the plan for the Cragmont Jubilee.

The concept of Jubilee is taken from Leviticus 24, where the "Year of Jubilee" is explained. The Year of Jubilee is the 50th year when all debts are wiped clean. It is our plan that Cragmont be debt free by its 50th year, 1995. We need to find 400 people who will pledge \$1,000 over the next five years. This will be payable as follows: 1) \$1,000 for the full amount, 2) \$200 per year, 3) \$100 semiannually, or 4) \$50 quarterly.

This pledge could be made by churches, Sunday Schools, Woman's Auxiliaries, youth groups, individuals, families, etc. It must be stressed that these funds must be over and above what you are presently giving in order to achieve the goal of being debt free.

Our Board members are very excited about this plan. They believe we can make it happen. Plans are also being made to burn the note in 1995 in a big celebration in which the entire Free Will Baptist denomination will be invited to participate. More detailed information will be reported at a later time.

SILVER CREEK EXPERIENCING GROWTH

by the Rev. Jerry Rowe

On Sunday morning, January 14, 1990, a very special service was held at Silver Creek Mission/Church. Three members were received into full fellowship, two made first-time decisions to follow Christ and be baptized by Pastor Jerry Rowe, the other rededicated her life to Christ and became a member of this work at Silver Creek. A certificate of baptism and an "Open Bible" were presented to the new converts.

All of those received are members of the same family. The one receiving the certificate and Bible from Pastor Rowe is the mother who is ninety years old, Sister Ruth Norris. Pictured beside her is her son's wife Ruby, who also was baptized, and her daughter Eva. The blessing to the Norris family and Silver Creek began in July when Sister Ruth's son, Wilber Norris, confessed Christ as his Saviour and she attended his baptism in October.

A communion and feet-washing service followed the receiving of new members. This has become a regular part of receiving new members into Silver Creek Church. It is an "accepted requirement" when practiced in this manner. Such services are usually held on Sunday nights, but to accommodate Sister Ruth, the

time was changed. Holding the service on Sunday morning was enjoyed so much by the entire congregation, Pastor Rowe expects it to become a usual practice for all communion and feet-washing services.

God is greatly blessing His work at Silver Creek, both physically and spiritually. During the past year, many things have been accomplished in addition to receiving four new members. New carpet has been purchased and installed by the Woman's Auxilliary. The men have repaired and painted. Through the leadership efforts of Brother Bobby Brown of Arapahoe Church, a new central air conditioner has been installed and paid for by his congregation and the Eastern Conference Missions Board. Their efforts stirred up members of Silver Creek and they raised sufficient funds to complete the project by installing a gas-pack heating plant.

We deeply appreciate all the support everyone gives our Home Missions Department at the Convention. We also want to express thanks to two churches, Bethlehem and Sandy Plains, in the Third Union of the Eastern Conference who have adopted regular support for Silver Creek.



The Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Rowe



I, as pastor, also want to personally thank the churches who made it possible for the Missions Board to provide a Christmas gift for all mission pastors.

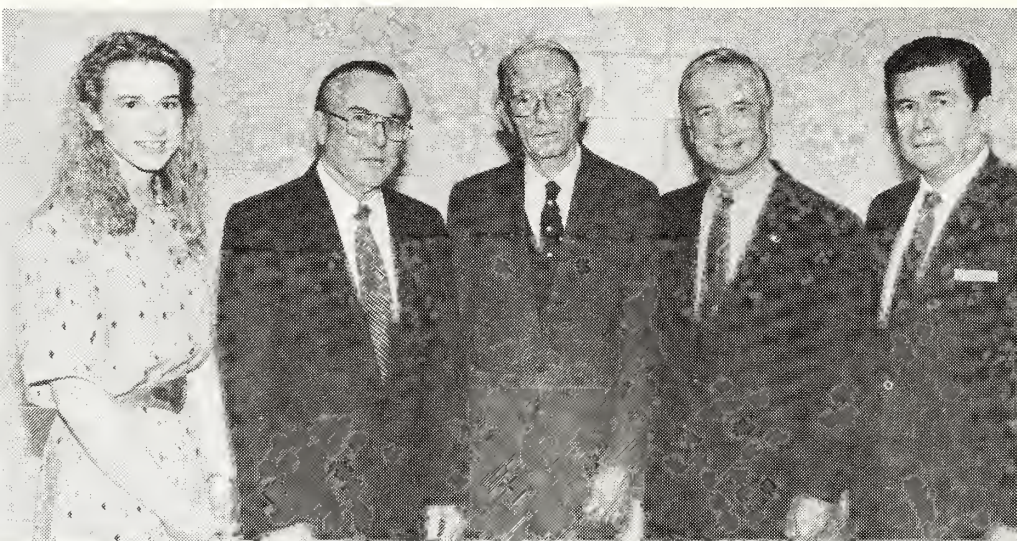
MOC ROAD TO EXCELLENCE CAMPAIGN REACHES ONE-THIRD OF GOAL

Thirty-eight percent of the \$10 million goal of the "Road to Excellence" Fund at Mount Olive College has been raised in advanced gifts and pledges College officials announced on Tuesday, April 3.

Nearly four-hundred supporters and friends of the College attended an Inaugural Dinner for the campaign, held as a kick-off for the public phase of the campaign. A total of \$3,800,912 in

(Turn the Page)





Former Governor Jim Hunt was the keynote speaker on April 3 at the inaugural dinner for Mount Olive College's \$10 million Road to Excellence Fund. Pictured are (l-r) MOC student Carma Brown, who gave the student response; L. Marvin Edwards Jr., chairman of the board of trustees; James B. Hunt Sr., who served on the board of trustees for 25 years; Hunt; and Dr. W. Burkette Raper.

pledges and gifts was raised during the private phase of the campaign.

Former Governor James B. Hunt Jr., chairman of the campaign, delivered a stirring challenge to the members of the audience. "I ask you to back up the words of encouragement to Mount Olive College with deeds. I ask you to take this campaign as your own crusade.

"We are building a college to provide opportunities for our youth. Make Mount Olive College a precious and vital part of your life," Hunt stated.

This endeavor is the largest fund-raising effort in the history of the College and according to College President W. Burkette Raper, the Inaugural Dinner was "a grand moment in the life of Mount Olive College.

"Our goal is to provide a regional four-year liberal arts Christian college that is committed to new standards of excellence and a program of comprehensive educational services," Dr. Raper continued. "It is now up to us to choose those standards of excellence which express the quality of life we seek for ourselves, our children, our nation, and our Church."

STUDENT TALKS ABOUT MOC'S VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

Pam Swinson is the kind of student that rises to meet the challenges placed before her. She is bright, creative, willing to work *and* willing to accept responsibility. As a junior English major, she has found that Mount Olive College's visual communications program is the perfect compliment to her chosen field of study.

"Visual communications allows me to enhance my skills as an English major while helping me

to present my ideas more effectively, she states. "The program allows me to develop many skills that will be beneficial in the working world."

One component of the program is desktop publishing, a computer program that allows students to create professional quality documents with state of the art technology. "With desktop publishing, I have learned how to produce effective documents in a short amount of time," states Pam. "I have learned the importance of combining visual and verbal skills to gain a better overall effect."

Pam is using this knowledge to produce flyers and brochures for the College's Office of Public Information. Her work as executive editor of MOC's literary publication, *The Olive Branch*, also involved the graphic design of all of the contents on the desktop publishing system.

The diversity of the visual communications degree is a strong drawing point for the program. Having a good verbal and visual sense of design is becoming an increasingly important asset for students as they begin their job search.

"The instructors are providing us with a great advantage over other students," Pam concludes.



Pam Swinson is one of the first students at Mount Olive College to enroll in the visual communications program. Pam is a member of Harmony Church in Wilson and is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Swinson (photo by Larry Lean).

TAYLOR COMPLETES STUDIES FOR DOCTORATE



C. Ray Taylor, professor of psychology at Mount Olive College, talks with Dorothy Whitley, dean of Instruction at the College. Dr. Taylor recently completed work for his doctorate in education.

C. Ray Taylor, professor of psychology at Mount Olive College and minister at Casey's Chapel Church in Goldsboro, has completed work for his doctorate in education at North Carolina State University. Dr. Taylor defended his dissertation before a doctoral committee in March. He will receive his degree at May graduation exercises.

Dr. Taylor's work focused on the motivational factors that lead military persons to attend college. His work will help the College further develop its extension pro-

gram at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro. Currently, the College serves approximately 500 students through the program.

Before coming to MOC in August 1988, he taught part-time at SJAFB and also at Wayne Community College. He holds a master's degree in counseling from East Carolina University.

Dr. Taylor and his wife Vickie have three children, Michael and Brian, both age 10, and Erin, age 5 months.

ANNIE B. MALLARD



Annie Banks Mallard

Annie Banks Mallard of Trenton, NC, died Saturday, April 14, in Mount Olive, NC, at age 84. Funeral services were held Monday at Friendship Church, Trenton, with the Revs. Melvin K. Everington and Gary M. Bailey officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. She is survived by a son, Graham W. Mallard, of Kinston; two daughters, Mrs. Horace Phillips (Agnes Faye) of Trenton, and Mrs. Burkette Raper (Rose) of Mount Olive; ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Annie and Rom Mallard Endowment at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive 28365, or Friendship Church of Trenton, NC 28585.

A native of Jones County, she was the widow of the late Rom W. Mallard and the daughter of the late Annie Moore and Andrew Jackson Banks. She was a member of the Friendship Church, Order of the Eastern Star, North Carolina Farm Bureau, charter member of the Jones County Extension Club and the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary. She was long-time treasurer of the North Carolina Eastern District of the Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

Saturday May 5	Gospel Music Festival, Eagle's Nest Begins at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday May 6	Commencement Worship Service The Rev. William Futch, speaker 7:30 p.m., College Hall
Saturday May 12	Graduation Exercises Dr. Paul P. Griffin, speaker 10:30 a.m., College Hall
Friday-Sunday May 18-20	Free Will Baptist State Youth Convention MOC campus
May 21-June 22	Summer School Session A
June 25-July 27	Summer School Session B

CASEY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED



Elizabeth H. Casey

A scholarship endowment has been established at Mount Olive College in memory of Benjamin and Elizabeth H. Casey, members of Casey's Chapel Church in Goldsboro. The endowment was established by a life-income investment by the late Mrs. Casey (July 23, 1904—November 27, 1989) and by memorial gifts from friends.

An endowment is a permanent fund in which the principal is invested and the earnings are used to advance the educational purposes of the College. It becomes "an investment that lives" by providing a perpetual means of support.

Mrs. Casey was an active member of her church, participating in the Woman's Auxiliary, Bible study groups, and the church's visitation program. She taught Sunday School for more than 65 years and was known for the special "care packages" she would send to people of the church. A church member called Mrs. Casey one of the sweetest and most caring individuals he had ever met.

CHURCH GROWTH AND EVANGELISM WORKSHOP TO BE HELD AT LEE'S CHAPEL CHURCH

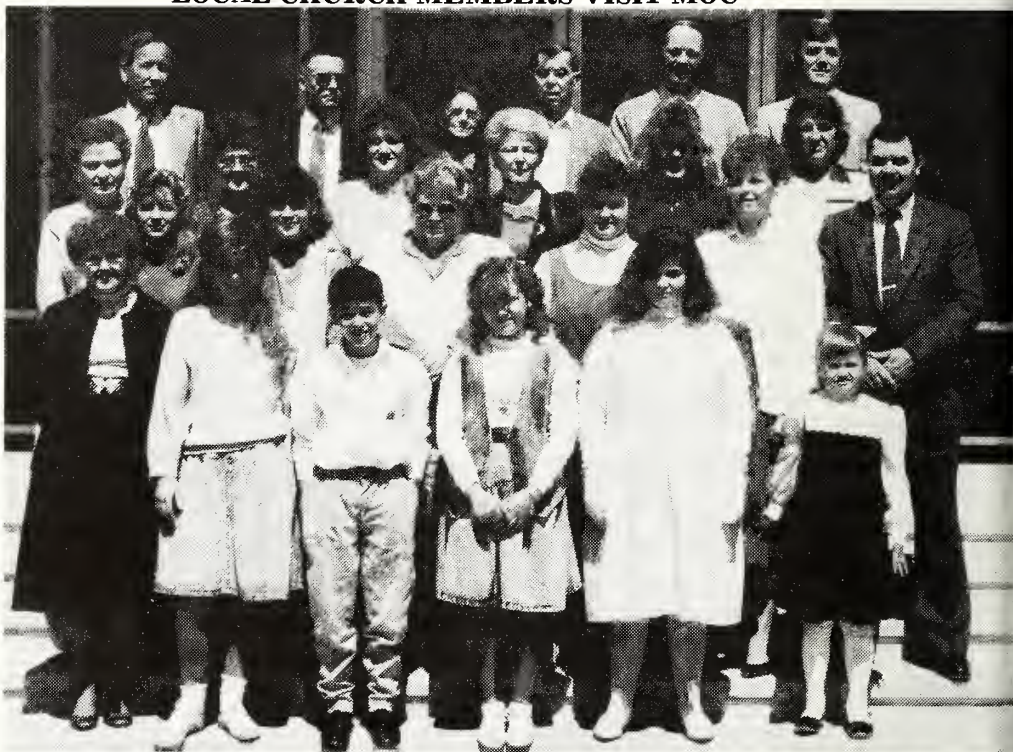
A church growth and evangelism workshop sponsored by the Mount Olive College School of Christian Studies will begin at Lee's Chapel Church, near Dunn, on Wednesday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. The workshop will be conducted by Dr. K. David Hines, director of Education for Christian Ministries at the College. The workshop will continue on the three consecutive Wednesdays, May 16, 23, and 30, at 7:30 nightly.

Dr. Hines serves as a professor in the department of religion and philosophy at MOC. He completed his doctoral work in church growth and evangelism at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in August 1989 and received his doctor of ministries.

For more information on the workshop contact, Dr. Hines at (919) 658-2502.

The Rev. Phillip Boykin is pastor of Lee's Chapel.

LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERS VISIT MOC



Several members of Peace Church, in Pinetops, visited the Mount Olive College campus in early April. After a luncheon at the cafeteria, the group was given a tour of the main campus by Jean Ackiss, director of church support at MOC. This was the first visit to the campus for some of the members.

Mount Olive College invites church groups to visit the campus at any time. If you would like to schedule a tour of the campus please contact Jean Ackiss at (919) 659-2502, extension 109.

Pictured are (front row, l-r) Margie Dunn, Christi Cannon, Jason Cooper, Tracy Cannon, Christy Wooten, Jennifer Bradbury, (second row) Beth Dunn, Shelly Cooper, Patsy Waters, Jennifer Wooten, Patricia Bradbury, church pastor Carroll Bradbury, (third row) Mary Langley, Ann Cooper, Barbara DeMuth, Shirley Tripp, Amanda Tripp, Mary Alice Varnell, (fourth row) Lester Langley, Fred DeMuth, Dorothy Brewer, Irving Wooten, Luther Tripp, and Robert Varnell (photo by Sandra Phelps).

ONE MORE BICYCLE DONATED



by Dr. E. M. Lall

It gives us great pleasure to witness that our people in the churches are showing good examples of stewardship. A lot has been taught to them by us in these sixteen years of work among the churches to give to the Lord even from our very meager resources.

During the year 1989 four bicycles were donated by some of the congregations to our ministers and deacons. This is one of the instances that Deacon Yunus Masih of Tondalpur circuit has been given a bicycle for his ministry.

Yunus Masih is aged 48, having a family of five members, including his wife, two sons and two daughters. He works in the circuit of Tondalpur, where a good number of Sikh families were baptized by us two years ago. He is raised for the service of our Lord from that very congregation. He speaks Punjabi and reads the Bible in the Gurmukhi language. He is a real effective deacon in our church in his area.

JOINT BAPTISMAL SERVICE

by Fred Baker

Luzviminda Church and Santa Lucia Church held a joint baptismal service Sunday, February 18, 1990. Fifteen new believers followed the Lord in Christian baptism in the beautiful clear waters of the Princesa Bay. Officiating minister was Fred Baker. Another special visitor was the Rev. Pio dela Rosa, director of the Mission Department of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines.

Luzviminda Church has a new pastoral team, Eder and Meriegene Peralta. Both Eder

and Meriegene are graduates of the Associate Program at

Palawan Bible College and have studied some in the Bachelor Program. The Peraltas are newlyweds, being married in mid-December 1989. After a short honeymoon, they began their new ministry at Luzviminda Church. In their first month of labor, they had nine people ready for baptism. What a way to start a new home together, winning the lost to Jesus Christ!

Santa Lucia Church was planted and is still being pastored by Mr. and Mrs. Bernabe Escolar. Brother Bernabe is a graduate of the Associate Program at Palawan Bible College. Along with pastoring the church, Brother Escolar also tends to his two hectare farm. Brother and Sister Escolar had six people prepared for baptism.

Luzviminda Church and Santa Lucia Church are close together, so they decided to hold a joint baptismal service. The service, which started about 2:45 in the afternoon, was well attended. The Rev. Pio dela Rosa gave a charge to the candidates before they were led out into the water. Brother Escolar assisted Fred Baker in the water. Those attending the service sang praises unto God and many walked out into the water with those being baptized. That act really demonstrated the churches' support and care for these new believers. Warm



fellowship and a closing prayer were experienced back on the beach.

It is so exciting to know that God is still in the soul-saving business. Thank you for being a part of bringing the gospel to these people by prayer and financial support. Let us commit ourselves to continue to pray for these and to continue to work together for the evangelization of our world.

May 12 . . .

Founder's Day
Children's Home
Middlesex, NC

Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina
YEARBOOK
1990
For July 1, 1988, Through
June 30, 1989

1990 Yearbooks

Available from Convention Headquarters
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513

1990 CAMP VANDEMERE SCHEDULE

For applications, contact the Director in charge of week desired. **ALL YOUTH CAMPS ARE FOR ALL AGES.**

JUNE 11-15

Allen Blount, Director

Box 334

Arapahoe, NC 28510

Phone 298-2526

JUNE 25-27

Woman's Week

Mrs. Mary Dudley, Director

Route 1, Box 430

Deep Run, NC 28525

Phone 658-3311

JULY 2-6

James Gurganus, Director

Route 3, Box 64

Newport, NC 28570

Phone 223-5251

JULY 9-14

Eva Mae Clark, Director

465 Half Moon Road

New Bern, NC 28560

Phone 637-5346

JULY 16-20

Franklin Baggett, Director

Route 2, Box 100

Belhaven, NC 27810

Phone 964-4402

JULY 30-AUG. 3

Stanley Buck, Director

108 Hope Lodge Street

Tarboro, NC 27886

Phone 832-3964

AUGUST 10-12

"Just Say No" Retreat

Chris Singleton, Director

Box 162

Beulaville, NC 28518

Phone 298-5320

SEPT. 3-7

Senior Citizen Camp

The Rev. Melvin Everington, Director

Route 4, Box 306

Kinston, NC 28501

Phone 569-7671

For reservations for the camp, contact Ralph Sumner, Route 2, Box 332-D, Pink Hill, NC 28572; or phone, 298-5885.

FEES: \$50, plus \$5 activity fee per week; overnight \$5 per night; mobile campers: \$5 per site, no hookup; \$10 with hookups to water and electricity.

MEALS: Breakfast, \$2.50; Lunch \$3.00; Dinner \$3.50.

May Is Children's Home Month

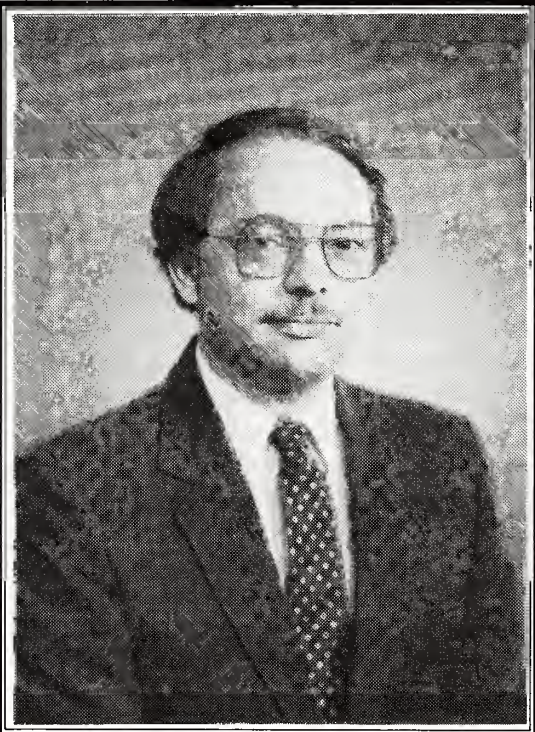
Join Us For Our

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME
MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA

MAY 12, 1990

Speaker



THE REV. DE W. EAKES

President of the Convention of
Original Free Will Baptists

70 SEVENTY 70
Years of
Christian Ministry
in Child Care

Be our guests for lunch.....	12:00
Founder's Day Service.....	1:00
Open House and Fellowship.....	2:00

JUNE IS CRAGMONT MONTH

The ministries of our denomination are given one or two months by the State Convention. The purpose of this is to call special attention to that particular ministry during its month and to inform the people of the denomination what the ministry is about and of its needs. June is the month that has been given to Cragmont.

Cragmont has been called by one of our board members "the people place." Cragmont is a conference and retreat center with some regularly scheduled conferences and retreats that are attended by the people of our denomination. Some of the conferences are youth conferences and are scheduled during the summer months. The purpose of the youth conferences is the teaching of "Christian living." This is hopefully accomplished through recreation, devotions, Bible discussions, and the proclaiming of the gospel.

Recreation: To show the young that there is fun and games in the Christian life. *Bible discussions:* To give young people the opportunity to ask questions and receive feedback from qualified leaders. *Devotions:* To teach young people to develop their own devotional life. *Preaching:* To give those young people who have never made a profession of faith a chance to do so.

While Cragmont has for a long time had a reputation of being a youth camp, we are not totally youth oriented. For many years, the Woman's Auxiliary has sponsored two weeks especially for the women of the denomination. Also, the ministers have held their annual ministers' conference for many years. In the last several years, a great interest has been shown in individual

church weekend retreats. Cragmont is a place where people of all ages are ministered to. Calling Cragmont "the people place" is accurate because one ministers to people—not issues, places, or things. Cragmont is a place where people gather to worship, recreate, and enjoy one another's company, it just happens to have the added enjoyment of being located in the mountains.

Below are some suggestions for your church as a whole or as individuals to consider as a way of helping Cragmont during the month of June.

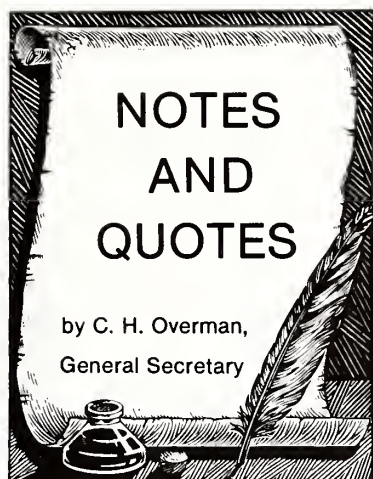
Prayer: We always need your prayers, but we ask you to say a special prayer each Sunday during the month of June as a church together.

Special Offering: During the month of June, have your church take up a special offering for Cragmont. I would suggest that you promote this offering the entire month and receive the offering the last Sunday in the month.

Visitation: It is our hope that you may visit Cragmont some time during the year. By your visit, you will see firsthand the importance of Cragmont's ministry.

Invite us to your church: There is a team of Cragmont supporters who are willing to go to any church for the purpose of promoting Cragmont in your church. We would love to come and show slides and answer questions. If you are interested, then call our office to schedule a time.

REMEMBER: JUNE IS CRAGMONT MONTH



THE MINISTRIES SLIDE PROGRAM

At the time of this writing, I have had the privilege to attend six of the District Auxiliary Spring Conventions. At five of these, we have shared the ministries slide program with the ladies of the Conventions. So far as we know, this is the first time that such a program has been prepared and made available to our conferences.

How did this come about? Last October in a meeting with the officers of the State Convention, along with myself as General Secretary and the ministry directors, the matter was discussed and it was decided that we would prepare such a program and present it at the Spring Auxiliary Conventions. Each of the ministry directors was asked to submit slides, along with a script. Letters were written to the presidents of the Auxiliary Conventions explaining the program and six of the seven agreed to the presentation. Comments on the program have been most favorable from those who have viewed it.

Working with me in the planning of the program were Mrs. Dianne Riley and the Rev. Doug Skinner. Brother Doug did much of the work in arranging the slides in coordination with the tape, or audio. The program is arranged in such a way that viewers are impressed in seeing the total work of

our Convention in one presentation.

We are grateful to our ministry directors for their cooperation in this endeavor. Our foreign missions director, the Rev. Harold Jones, graciously allowed us to use the missions board equipment for presentations. Other ministry directors assisted us in the setting up of the equipment each time.

A good number have expressed the desire to use the program in their churches. In view of this, we are exploring the possibility of having the program recorded on video.

THE 1990 YEARBOOK

The *Yearbooks* were mailed to the church clerks during the week of April 2. It was also mailed to those ministers who registered at

last fall's Convention. The *Yearbook* covers the period from July 1, 1988, through June 30, 1989. It was our hope to have the *Yearbook* out earlier this year, but things simply did not work out. Next year—well, we will try!

THE MINISTRIES POSTER

Along with the mailing of the *Yearbooks* to the church clerks, we also included one of the newly printed posters depicting our ministries. As you see, each of the ministries and ministry directors, along with the addresses, is listed. Copies of the poster may be obtained from our Headquarters. We hope each church will place the poster in a very conspicuous place. We are proud of the work of our Convention!

**North Carolina State Convention of
Original Free Will Baptists**

**DENOMINATIONAL
MINISTRIES**

CHILDREN'S HOME
The Rev. Bobby Taylor, Executive Director
Box 249
Millsboro, NC 27557; phone (919) 235-2181

CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION
The Rev. Walter Reynolds, President
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513; residence phone (919) 756-6587; office phone (919) 748-4963

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.
The Rev. and Mrs. John Williams, Managers and Promotional Directors
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711;
phone (704) 969-1677

FOREIGN MISSIONS
The Rev. Harold Jones, Director-Treasurer
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513; phone (919) 748-4963

**FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
FOUNDATION, INC.**
Mr. R. Clifford Gray Jr., Executive Director
811 North Lee Street
Box 159
Ayden, NC 28513; phone (919) 748-6126

HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM
The Rev. David C. Hansley, Executive Director
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513; phone (919) 748-4963

MINISTERS' PROGRAM
The Rev. Donald Fader, Director-Treasurer
Box 2313
Kinston, NC 28501; phone (919) 522-2545

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
Dr. W. Burdette Raper, President
Henderson Drive
Mount Olive, NC 28368
General Administration (919) 656-2502

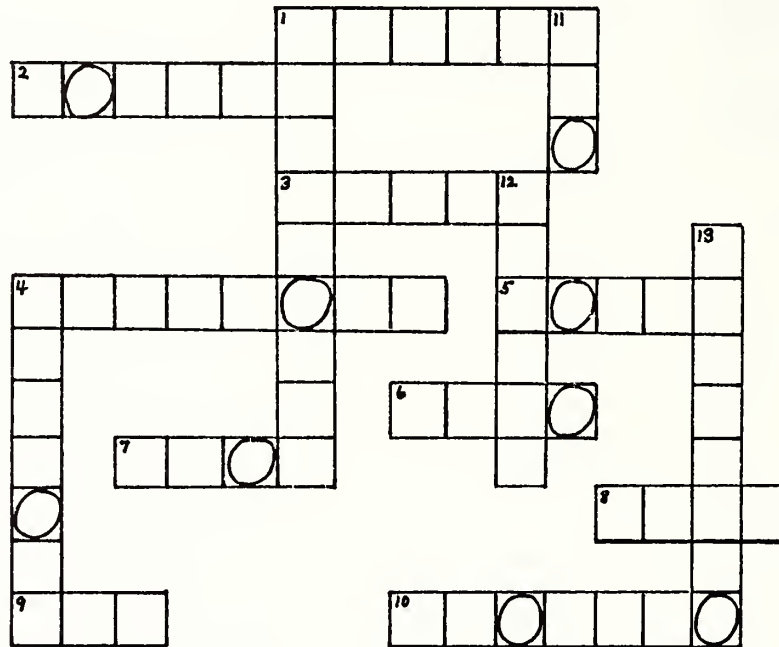
RETIREMENT HOMES, INC.
The Rev. Walter J. Sutton, Director
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513; phone (919) 748-4963

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD
The Rev. Bada Mitchell, Field Secretary
Route 7, Box 477
Goldsboro, NC 27530

**ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST
HEADQUARTERS**
The Rev. C. H. Overman, General Secretary
811 North Lee Street
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039; 748-4963

SPECIAL MOMS

Since it's almost Mother's Day, see if you can remember the names of several mothers in the Bible by using the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle. When you finish, unscramble the letters in the circles to find the name of King Solomon's mother.



ACROSS

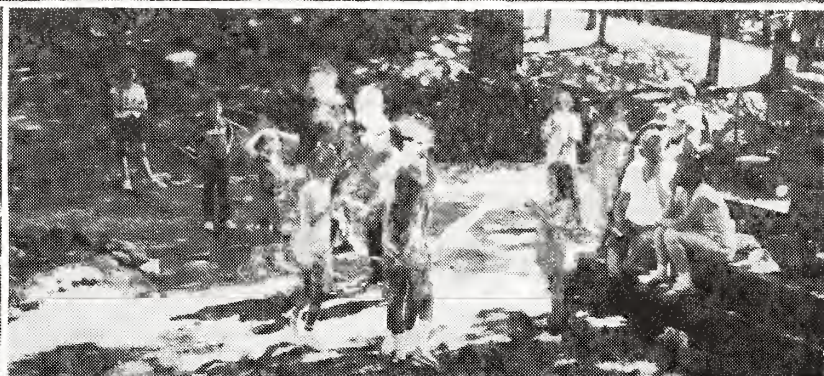
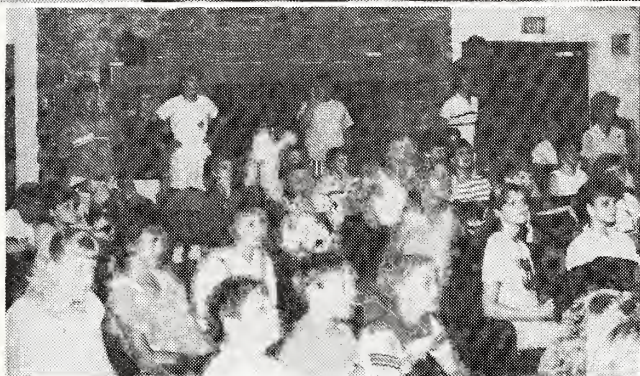
1. Mother of Timothy
(2 Timothy 1:5)
2. Mother of Joseph
(Genesis 35:24)
3. Mother of Isaac
(Genesis 21:3)
4. Mother of Moses
(Exodus 6:20)
5. Mother of Mahlon
(Ruth 1:2)
6. Mother of Judah
(Genesis 35:23)
7. Mother of Obed
(Ruth 4:13 and 17)
8. Mother of Jesus
(Matthew 1:25)
9. Mother of Hezekiah
(2 Kings 18:2)

10. Mother of Jacob
(Genesis 27:15)

DOWN

1. Mother of John the Baptist
(Luke 1:13)
4. Mother of King Jotham
(2 Kings 15:33)
11. Mother of Cain
(Genesis 4:1)
12. Mother of Samuel
(1 Samuel 1:20)
13. Mother of Gershom
(Exodus 2:21 and 22)

(Mother of Solomon)



1990 CRAGMONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Below you will find the schedule of conferences and the person to contact for registering.

MORNING STAR

April 20-22
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

June 11-16
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

June 18-21
Marvin Waters
2413 Brices Creek Road
New Bern, NC 28560

CHRISTIAN CADET

June 25-30
Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER (YFA)

July 2-7
Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER (AFC)

July 9-14
Doug Skinner
804 Cooper Street
Winterville, NC 28590

GENERAL YOUTH II

July 16-21
Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I

July 23-28
Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE

July 30—August 4
James Gurganus
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 6-11
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 15-18
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB I

October 19-21
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB II

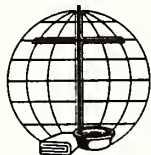
October 26-28
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CORNERSTONE

November 23-25
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

SNOW HOUND

December 28-January 1
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711



TO: All Ministers of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists
RE: Pre-registration for CRAGMONT MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, June 18-21, 1990

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Ministerial Association wishes to invite you to come be with us at Cragmont Assembly on June 18-21, 1990, for our annual Ministers' Conference. The theme of this year's conference is "Hear the Word." If you plan to attend this Conference, please send \$15 and the registration form below. (Registration covers the cost of your membership in the Association as well as your Cragmont Ministers' picture.)

Make checks payable to **North Carolina Ministerial Association** and mail to:
Marvin R. Waters
2413 Brices Creek Road
New Bern, North Carolina 28562

We wish to have your pre-registration by June 4, 1990.

PRE—REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
June 18-21, 1990

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Please indicate your building preference (rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis):

Main Building _____ Motel _____ Floyd House _____

Dorm _____ I will make my own lodging arrangements off campus _____

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? (The ground floor will be reserved for those with health problems.) Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate those with whom you wish to room if you stay in the Main Building or in the Motel:

Please note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the dining hall. (_____) Check here if your wife will be with you.

Would you like the Christian flag at your funeral? Yes _____ No _____ (New registration each year.)

If you are unable to attend our Conference this year and wish to join our Ministerial Association or renew your membership, please send \$12 membership dues (\$2 included for Ministers' Scholarship Fund) to Marvin Waters at the following address:
2413 Brices Creek Road, New Bern, NC 28562.

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
Route 2 Box 496
Goldsboro, NC 27534

The Christian Cadet Conference (sponsored by the League Convention) for 1990 will be held on June 25-30. We are looking for a great week of camp. Our goal this year is to have all our last year's campers return, as well as have a good number of new or first-time campers.

The cost of camp this year is \$105 per camper. That is the same as last year. Compared to other camps the Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont is a real bargain. Remember that transportation, towels, sheets, pillows, soap and all activities are included in our one price. The only out of pocket expense will be lunch Monday and Saturday, snacks and souvenirs, and group picture, if desired.

Get your application in as soon as possible. Do not be shut out due to high attendance! The age for campers is 9-19 YEARS.

To insure your place at camp, each camper must include with his/her application a \$30 deposit. This deposit will become non-refundable after June 1, 1990. (Transfers are allowable for new campers, but no refunds can be made after June 1.) The balance of \$75 will be due June 15. Medical forms and travel details will be sent in late May.

Camp staff for 1990 will be Gary M. Bailey and Ronnie V. Hobgood, co-directors; Kristie Bailey, Phillip Jordan, Glen and Jessie Mills, Arnie Jones, Miranda Bailey, Richard and Jodi Glosson, Joe Ard, Marla Hamm, Lisa Mizell, Wesley Beddard, Sherman Dilley, Ray Burke, Tammy Holmes, Gloria Langley, Glenda Hood, Pam Meadors, Susan Bailey, Richard Holmes, and Leon and Judy Harris.

For more information or if you have questions, please call or write to: Gary M. Bailey, director (address above), or phone (office, 735-3916; home, 734-0714).

Detach Here and Mail To

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
Route 2, Box 496
Goldsboro, NC 27534
Application for Camp - June 25-30, 1990

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Age _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____ School Grade Next Fall _____

Parents/Guardians _____

Address _____

Phone of above: Day _____ Night _____ Day _____ Night _____

Church _____ Minister _____

_____ \$30 Deposit Enclosed. \$75 Balance Due by June 1st.

Signature of Camper

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Called to Excellence



AN EXAMINATION OF TRUE FAITH

YFAers will soon be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1990 Youth-Frontier Conference. Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week is unique because it is the only youth encampment at Cragmont planned for just teenagers. This encampment always proves to be a time of fun and fellowship, a time of soul-searching and inspiration. This year's encampment is scheduled for July 2-9.

To make sure that you are among those attending YFA Week, please mail the application below soon! (Please mail no later than June 22; but do not wait, as you might be closed out if you do.) Send the application with a \$30 registration fee. Letters explaining what you need to carry to camp will be sent when your registration fee is received. The total cost of the week is \$125.

Checks should be made payable to Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week.

APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
City/Town _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Age _____ Sex _____
Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____
Church _____

Send application to: Scott and Janie Sowers,

Directors

Route 1, Box 106-B

Farmville, NC 27828

It's Time For Action!

ATTENTION CAMPERS AND YOUTH LEADERS:

It's Time to Begin Planning for Summer Camp at Cragmont

Week: General Youth Conference

Date: July 23-28

Theme: "It's Time for Action!"

Cost: \$125 (includes transportation, lodging, food at Cragmont, group picture, activity fee, and admission fee to "Carowinds").

Registration: For ages eight to eighteen; \$25 deposit required by June 25.

Make checks payable to *General Youth Conference* and return with form below to:

Bryant Hines Jr., Registrar

Post Office Box 266

Cove City, NC 28523

For further information, call Bryant Hines at 638-3436 (work), 633-2683 (home); or David Hines, director, at 658-6948.

-----D-E-T-A-C-H—H-E-R-E-----

Name _____

Address _____

Age _____ Male _____ Female _____

Church Name _____ City _____

General Youth Conference

July 23-28, 1990

CAMP VANDEMERE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

THEME: "Being an Effective Christian"

SCRIPTURE TEXT: Ephesians 4:1-7.

Check-In: Monday, 10 a.m. [gates and doors will not open until 9 a.m.]

Check-Out: Friday 10 a.m.

The time for Christian camping will soon be here. We want to invite you to join us this summer during the **Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference**. Our theme for the week will be "Being an Effective Christian."

Each auxiliary is urged to elect a Woman of the Year from the auxiliary and to send her to camp. Each Woman of the Year will be honored during a special service on Monday evening. (Women of the Year not present at that time will be honored on whichever day they attend.) If your Woman of the Year cannot attend for any day, send in her letter of recognition and she will be recognized.

We hope you can come for the entire week. If not, we would like to have you as an overnight or day camper. Many of our working ladies find this more feasible for their schedule. We have an exciting program planned with Bible study, music, arts and crafts, denominational interests, and lots more. Our speakers will be discussing characteristics of an effective Christian in our society today. Come and join the fellowship of Christian camping.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Dudley,
Director/Registrar

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Church and Conference _____

Age _____ Phone _____

Day-Campers Only

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
B-L-D	B-L-D	B-L-D	B-L-D

PLEASE circle days you plan to attend and meals you desire. [Day-Camper fees are: Breakfast, \$2.50; lunch, \$3; dinner, \$3.50; and overnight \$5.]

Camp fees are \$55 for the week. Registration fee is \$10, with the balance due upon arrival. Send registration forms and fees to:

Mary M. Dudley

Route 1, Box 430

Deep Run, NC 28525

Telephone: (919) 568-3311

NOTE: Please call and let us know if you have a group coming in for the day, so we can prepare extra meals.

Thank you!

A COLD THAT THE FIRE WILL NOT WARM

by James Taylor

Scripture — John 18:15-18

Peter has been criticized for being with the wrong crowd. He should have been with the other disciples. But instead of being with the disciples, he was with those who sought to destroy Jesus and His work.

John 18:18 indicates that it was cold. Peter was not in fellowship with Jesus at this particular time; he was not in fellowship with the other disciples and he was not in fellowship with himself. Peter was normally outspoken, loud and full of action. But now he was subdued and very quiet. He was not in fellowship. And as verse 18 indicates, it was cold. Peter turned to the fire that was kindled by the servants and officers. The fire they had started was shared by all, but Peter found no warmth in it. He was cold. He was in what we might call today a backslidden condition. He did not want to be in this condition. He did not mean to be in this condition and certainly he had not planned to be in this condition. But there he was. Trying to warm away a cold with a fire that had no warmth for him.

There are times we find ourselves as Peter did. We find ourselves cold. First, we find ourselves cold with Jesus. We slip away from reading the Bible, we skip our prayer life, we back off on witnessing and we fail to take a stand when we know we should. We allow little sins to creep in. The more we slip, skip, back off and fail, then the easier it becomes; and the easier it becomes, the more we do it. We don't do it on purpose, but we just do it. And we let the little sins grow and multiply . . . never a gross sin, just a little sin. And like Peter we find ourselves cold with Jesus. And because we are cold with Jesus we are not in fellowship with Him. The wonderful warmth of fellowship with our Lord is gone. We find ourselves cold. So we look for something to warm us. We begin to work hard in church. We cut grass, clean the carpet; we make sure the doors are open. We do all sorts of things that are church related to try to restore that warmth that only comes from being in fellowship with Jesus.

Second, we find ourselves cold with other believers. As Peter should have been with the other disciples, he found himself alone. He needed the strength that comes from Christian fellowship. But because he left them, he had no one of like faith with whom to fellowship. So he gathered around a fire with the wrong crowd, people who could not offer the warmth of Christian fellowship.

When we grow cold with Jesus, we grow cold with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Instead of

praying for them, we begin to whisper about them. Instead of trying to build them up, we begin to tear them down. We come to church but there is a strained relationship with those with whom we should be closest. We try to warm ourselves by the fire of those with whom we have nothing in common. We look to unbelievers for fellowship. We turn to things of the world to restore warmth to our souls. But as with Peter, the fire of the world will not warm the soul.

Third, we find that being cold with Jesus causes us to be cold with ourselves. We try to convince ourselves that we are right. We have not changed, God just demands too much. We have not left the fellowship of other believers, they just don't believe like they used to. We find that in all the self justification, there is an empty, gnawing cold within our soul. We try to warm ourselves with the fire of good works, rationalization, and formalism, but like the fire that Peter stood by, there is no warmth. We can fool a lot of people, but we cannot fool ourself and God. We know our condition whether we will admit it or not.

But all is not lost. Peter did find warmth. It was not in the fire built by the world. It was in the fire that was kindled by Jesus. When Peter denied Jesus and the rooster crowed, Peter went out and wept bitterly as Luke 22:62 states. He repented. The warmth of Jesus was spread throughout his soul. We soon find Peter restored to fellowship with Jesus, the other disciples and with himself.

The solution is confession. When we find ourselves like Peter, we must do as he did. We must first repent of our backsliding, our failure to read and study God's Word and our lack of prayer. We must confess our sins. 1 John 1:9 states, "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

We must confess to other believers of our coldness. If in our condition we have wronged any, we must go to them and ask their forgiveness. This restores to us the warmth of Christian fellowship. And as Christians, we draw strength from other Christians.

We must confess to ourselves that we are cold, that there is nothing we can do without God. We must confess that the very best we can do is as "filthy rags" in God's sight. This restores the warmth of reliance upon God and removes doubt and indecision on our part.

The question now is: Where are you trying to find warmth? In the fire built by the world which is a fire that may be hot, but it contains no warmth for a Christian? Or are you depending upon God for the spiritual warmth that is needed to live each day for Christ?

AS I WATCH MY CHILDREN
by
the Rev. Doris Pinyan

Dear God, as I sit and watch my
children play
I wonder will they serve you
someday?
Will they see the love I have for you,
Or turn their backs on a God that's
true?

Dear God, as I sit and watch my
children play
I wonder have I done my job today
To help them grow to serve the Lord
And realize life is more than games
and toys?

Dear God, as I sit and watch my
children play
I realize they'll be gone someday
Into a world where Satan lives
And I won't be there to dry their
tears.

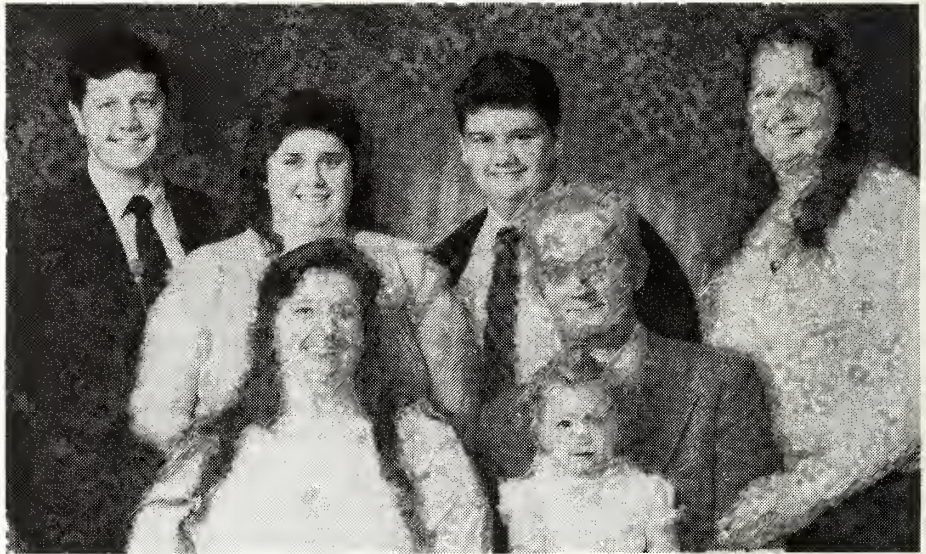
Please, Dear God, hear my prayer
today
Help them never go astray
You promised, Lord, if I served you
That you would save my household
too.

Dear God, at seventeen, he's almost
grown;
At fourteen, she's coming right along;
At two, he's learning right from
wrong;
And just beginning, he's my newborn.

Dear Lord, I've done my very best
Help them stand every test
I wrote this poem that they may see
Just how much God means to me.

**SPECIAL NOTE,
WOMEN**

Woman's Conference at
Cragmont, scheduled for
August 6-11, is filled.
Vacancies still remain for the
June 11-16 conference.



We would like to share our family ministry in song, testimonies and preaching with you. If you can use us in your revivals, homecomings, song services, special meetings, and so forth, please contact Earl R. Turnage, Licensed Original Free Will Baptist Minister, Route 1, Box 479, Beaufort, NC 28516.

**Camp Vandemere
LIGHTHOUSE
KEEPERS CLUB**



The Camp Vandemere Lighthouse Keepers Club is a group of interested and committed supporters of the camp. Their purpose is to help Camp Vandemere to be a place of worship and retreat for Free Will Baptists. We hope to create a feeling of participation among the members of the local churches and to have a cash flow that will help better the camp facilities.

By being a part of this vital ministry you will become a partner in the camp's visions to see lost people won to the Lord and saved people grow in His love and knowledge. You will also receive a decorative certificate symbolizing your support of the camp. In addition you will also have the privilege of sending one individual to any scheduled camp, or sending two individuals to a weekend retreat, or spending one week as a mobile camper with water and electric hookup.



Library
Duke University
Durham NC 27706

The Free Will Baptist

JUNE 1990

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors: Darrell Home, President; Carroll Hawkins, Vice President; Gaye Renfrow, Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Assistant Secretary; Carlee Stallard, Jack Thompson, W. S. Burns, Gary Burbage, Leon Harris; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.; Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

We Salute Our Graduates

Happenings Throughout The Church

3

Notes and Quotes

18

Children's Corner

19

A Lighted Candle in the Night

20

Company's Coming

22

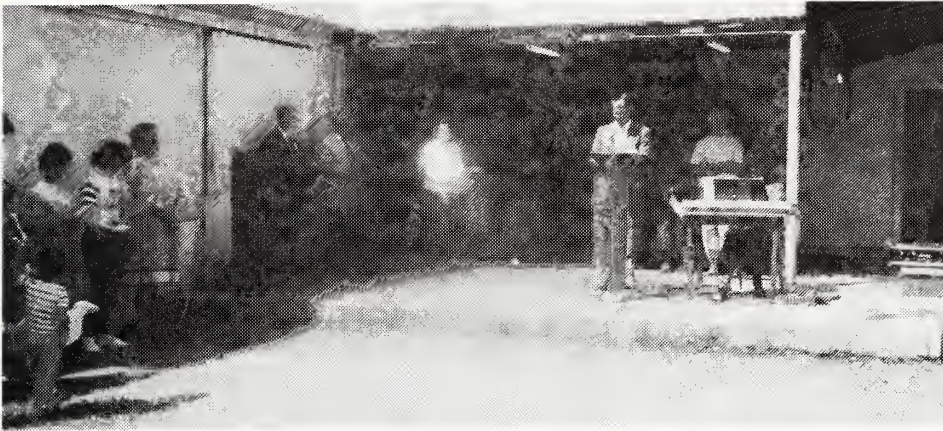
Foy Cornelius Futrelle

25

Camp Applications

27

**DAVIS COMMUNITY JOINS TOGETHER FOR
"DEDICATION OF THE FLEET" SERVICE**



submitted by Pat Willis

Due to the freeze and extreme weather conditions this past winter, the seafood industry looks bleak for the commercial fisherman. It has been a difficult winter and spring for those who depend on the seafood industry to provide for their families. Instead of worrying over this situation, the pastors of the three churches in our community, planned a special service we called the "Dedication of the Fleet."

On April 22, approximately 90 people gathered at the harbor in front of James Styron Fish Company in the community of "Davis Shore." The Rev. Joe Ard, pastor of the Original Free Will Baptist Church, presided over the service. Mr. Ard led the group in singing "Standing on the Promises of God," "Have Faith in God," "Peter, James and John in a Sailboat" and "Victory in Jesus." Ms. Nancy Harris, organist of the First Baptist Church, accompanied the group on the organ. The Rev. Tim Osborne, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church, read the Scripture and led in prayer. Special music was provided by a trio from the Free Will Baptist Church who sang "The Lighthouse." The Rev. M. R. Haire, pastor of the First Baptist Church, presented the

message and a litany of dedication to the fleet. Mr. Ard dismissed the service with a prayer of dedication for the fleet.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH MEETING

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet on June 2 at Hopewell Church. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

All Cape Fear youth are encouraged to attend.

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE UPDATE

by John Newton

On April 14, the Tarboro Church held its 29th annual Fish Fry sponsored by the Local Layman's League. There were approximately 125 people in attendance, with 15 plates taken to shut-in individuals. The meal consisted of fried herrings and chickens, with all the trimmings cooked by the laymen.

Make your plans now to attend next year and help celebrate 30 years in the fish business.

**ACTIVITIES AT
VANDORA SPRINGS**

On Sunday evening, April 8, the Ladies' Auxiliary of Vandora Springs Church in Garner, North Carolina, conducted a pre-Easter Service. Essie Caton started the service with the Scripture

reading, Mark 16:1-7, and with prayer. Margaret Brown then spoke on this Scripture, emphasizing women's roles in and responsibility toward spreading the gospel. She reminded us of the Gospels' accounts of the women going early on the Sunday morning after the Crucifixion to anoint the body of Jesus. The women, finding an empty tomb and the great stone rolled away, were instructed to go to the disciples and tell the good news of Jesus' Resurrection.

Likewise, Christian women today should be ready and willing to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give an account of the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15). The stones, the obstacles, are rolled away through the power of the resurrected Lord!

After this message of "go tell," the service was ended with a medley of "I Should Have Been Crucified" and "Christ Arose," sung by Wendy Tedder, a fellow auxiliary member.

Another recent activity led by the Auxiliary was Pastor Appreciation Day. On that Sunday, March 11, lunch was served at the church, and special thanks were given to our pastor, the Rev. Jesse Caton, for the special loving care he gives to the congregation.

In addition, the Auxiliary, in conjunction with the rest of the church, had a pig-pickin' on May 12. All proceeds, from donations on that day, will be used to send the youth of the church, from ages 8-18, to Cragmont, the Christian summer camp sponsored by the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen

The senior citizen honored for the month of April by the Adult Class, Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, was Mr. Ervin

(Turn the Page)



Mr. Ervin Buck

Buck. He married Vee Mills in 1942 and they have made a wonderful, loving couple. He is the father of two sons, James and Wayne. He also has two granddaughters, Bridget and Melissa.

He is one of the finest, Christian gentlemen one would want to meet. He loves his church and attends Sunday School and church every service that he possibly can. He joined Pleasant Hill in 1985. He is always willing, as health permits, to participate in any meeting that is promoted by his church.

Mr. Buck has been in the community all of his life and farmed until several years ago when his health caused him to retire. He has a beautiful garden each year and shares with family, friends, and his church when they have dinners. In fact, he can give any woman a race when it comes to cooking. I have personally eaten some delicious meals in his home as well as food sent to me.

Ervin is a member that you are proud of because he can be serious but when he feels good, he loves to pull jokes on you. He is the type man we need more of in our church because he is humble and loves the Lord, loves his family and friends very deeply. We thank God for him every day in our personal devotions, asking

God to keep him a long time so that he can be an inspiration to others. May God bless him is our personal prayer for him as he serves the Lord so faithfully.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET

A Mother/Daughter Banquet was held at Winterville Church, Friday, May 11. As they arrived, mothers were pinned with white daisies and daughters pinned with yellow daisies. Karen Ribeiro, president of the Young Women's Bible Study Group who sponsored the banquet, welcomed the group with a reading from Ruth. After a delicious meal, most women had to investigate the ladies' room, which had been decorated by Linda Weathersby and her daughter Robin. An activity to see how well mothers and daughters knew each other followed singing. There was a sharing time of special mother/daughter relationships. Door prizes were given away to special mothers. Betty Harris dismissed the banquet with prayer. It was a special night for mothers and daughters to fellowship with each other and recall special memories.

STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

by Ruth Warrick, Corresponding Secretary

The Sixty-third Annual State Woman's Auxiliary Convention was hosted by the Pee Dee District at Oak Grove Church, Bladenboro, North Carolina, on May 10, 1990.

The theme was "We Are Called" based on Ephesians 4:1, "I therefore the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called."

Ms. Sara Willoughby presided over the meeting at which speakers, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan and Mrs. Helen Beaman, gave inspirational messages. Mrs. Donna Holland

presented the Life Membership Award to Mrs. Hazel Brown of the Piedmont District in absentia.

Musicians Dianne Riley, Brenda Sykes and Avary Brisson moved our hearts with congregational and special numbers. Special music was also presented by Duwyann Ward of the Cypress Creek Church.

Ms. Becky Jo Sumner was in charge of a "sweet" Installation Service in which she presented each officer with a candy bar symbolic of her duties. Elected were President, Carolyn Jernigan; Vice President, Jean F. Ackiss; Secretary, Sandra Jones; Corresponding Secretary, Ruth Warrick; Treasurer, Nadine Crocker; Christian Education, Dianne B. Riley; Missions Chairman, Deborah H. King; Youth Chairman, Joan Little; Life Membership, Hilda Sasser; Study Course Chairman, Leah McGlohon; Program-Prayer Chairman, Happy Taylor; Literature Committee Chairman, Dola H. Dudley; Benevolence Chairman, Clara Patrick; Field Secretary, Donna Holland; DEVOTION Compiling Editor, Nina Grace Register; Honorary Member, Mrs. Hattie Bright. *Standing Committees:* Cragmont Stockholders, Grace Barbour, 1990-1993; Christian Education, Sheryll Wood, 1990-1993; Literature, Kathy Hayes, 1990-1995.

Truly, it was a good day in the Lord with 155 auxiliaries reporting.

BALDRIDGE BRINGS MORE THAN ENTERTAINMENT

Performing artist Michael Roy Baldrige is extremely hard to label. He has worked with such names in contemporary Christian music as Michael Card, Randy Stonehill, Glad, Benny Hester, Terry Talbot and James Ward, yet he is not exactly contemporary music. He started out his

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



career with the critically acclaimed Lamb's Players of San Diego, California, but he is not purely theatre. After viewing a performance of Baldridge's, columnist Darrel Laurant of Lynchburg, Virginia, titled a column about him, "Michael Roy Baldridge: Fine Art in a Juggler Vein." It seemed to fit, so it has stuck. Yet even that is not all of what a Michael Roy Baldridge concert is about.

"Yes," admits Baldridge, "object manipulation is definitely a feature of my work (Baldridge avoids the term, *juggling*, understanding the public's preconceived ideas of what juggling is; none of which quite fit his treatment of the skill), but there's more to it than that. I guess our production could be categorized (if that's possible) within the growing field of new vaudeville. We have taken the traditional variety arts from vaudeville and the circus and embellished them with the theatrical and fine arts. It brings a fresh face to these time honored crafts and creates a unique experience for audiences in our contemporary culture."

Unique, of course, does not mean boring. New vaudevillians such as the Flying Karamazov Brothers, Avner the Eccentric and Bill Irwin have had critical and box office success on Broadway, in the movies and on TV.

"Yes," agrees Baldridge, "the popularity of this medium proves its ability to entertain." And Baldridge has proven his ability to entertain. For over a decade he has crisscrossed North America bringing enthusiasm to wherever he works. Bill O'Conner, Akron, Ohio's *Beacon Journal* theatre critic wrote that Baldridge is "a dazzler, yet despite the difficulty of his routine he never abandoned the comic tone." Jim Mullin of the *READER San Diego's Weekly* called him a "showstopper."

But is Baldridge's work simply "dazzling," "comic" and "showstopping," or does it express something more? In a review published in the *Fellowship of Christian Puppeteers Magazine* it says, "Michael Roy Baldridge then treated us to a celebration of the intricate order, the inexhaustible harmony, the infinite variety and the unrestrained *fun* of creation. Without resorting to a spoken "sermon," Michael got his message across quite vividly." Baldridge explains, "As far back



The members of Sidney Church cordially invite you to participate in the Centennial Celebration of their founding.

The celebration will begin with a reception on Saturday, August 25, 1990, from 5-7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

The celebration will continue on Sunday, August 26, beginning with Sunday School at 10 a.m. The morning worship service will begin at 11, with dinner on the grounds at 12. A memorial service and singspiration will follow outside.

Please plan to be a part of this wonderful celebration in the Lord.

as I can remember I have been fascinated with the beauty, mystery, humor and incredible (almost magical) structure of the physical world. So as my artistic endeavors developed it was a natural thing for me to express this fascination in my work. And being a believer in Jesus, my work has become a way to bring audiences to a fresh awareness of the way nature always points toward its maker." Or as Kenneth Hermann, director of Radix Ministries at Kent State University puts it, "through (Baldrige's) performance you will see that God has filled his world with many unexpected surprises, delightful twists and humorous crannies, all for the sheer enjoyment of his people. Michael explores these artistic dimensions for us and, in so doing, leads us to a deeper appreciation and praise for our Lord who gave us such a wonderful creation."

Michael Roy Baldrige will be participating in the 1990 youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week at Cragmont. The week is scheduled for July 2-7. For more information regarding the Conference, contact Scott or Janie Sowers, Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmville, NC; phone (919) 753-4260; or see Page 28 of this issue of *The Free Will Baptist*.

CENTENNIAL PLANNED

The members of Gethsemane Church, located at 112 Gethsemane Church Road, New Bern, NC, will celebrate the church's centennial on Sunday, June 10. All past and present members and friends of the church are invited.

Heritage Day Marlboro Church June 3

Come worship with us.
Day-long activities and lunch.



MARLBORO YOUTH CAPTURE FIELD DAY WIN

The Central District Youth Fellowship met for its annual Field Day at Farmville Central High School on April 21. Approximately two hundred young people, sponsors and other adults attended. Pictured above are Marlboro Church participants and sponsors. Marlboro captured first place honors, followed closely by King's Cross Roads youth in second place. Tarboro Church placed third.

FELLOWSHIP ESTABLISHED AND GROWING



Present at the initial meeting of the student fellowship were (from left to right): seated—Wendy Jones, Misty Jones, Wendy Barnes; standing—Ronnie Hobgood, Chris Dawson, Wesley Craft, Scott Beamon, Doug Skinner (not pictured—Janie Sowers).

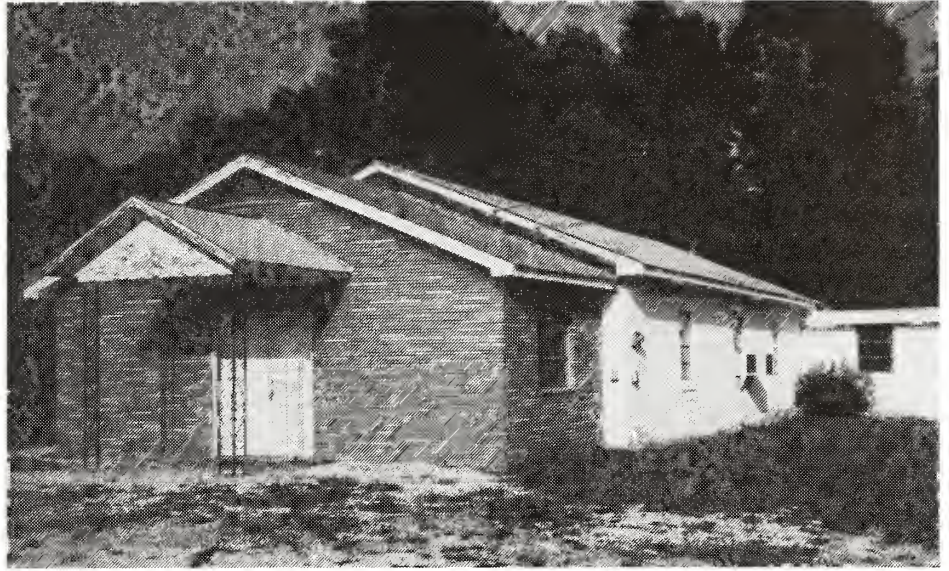
Some years ago, the Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship at East Carolina University disbanded. But the story does not end there. After months of discussion, a group of six college students from the Greenville, NC, area met in March for the establishment of a new student fellowship. The group presently meets every other Monday night and has grown in number from the original six to over twenty at its last gathering.

Any college student or college-age individual is welcomed. The next meeting calls for the group to meet at Marlboro Church, Farmville, at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 4. From there, the group will go to eat and return to the church (or parsonage) for a time of devotions, business, activities and fellowship.

For more information, contact one of the group's advisors: Ronnie Hobgood, 355-3264 (home), 756-6600 (work); Doug Skinner, 756-0520 (home), 756-3838 (work). Janie Sowers, 753-4260 (home), 746-6128 (work).

A NEW FOCUS FOR FRIENDLY CHAPEL CHURCH

Since June 1989, the Holy Cross Church, of Greensboro, has undergone significant change. On December 1, 1989, it became necessary to close. No services have been held since that date. The transition period has provided the opportunity to refine and refocus the direction of this endeavor. The encouragement received by many who attended the Piedmont Conference on Saturday, April 28, 1990, has confirmed and intensified the conviction that a determined effort be made to reopen the Friendly Chapel Church of Greensboro, North Carolina.

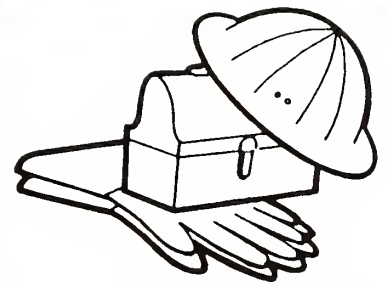
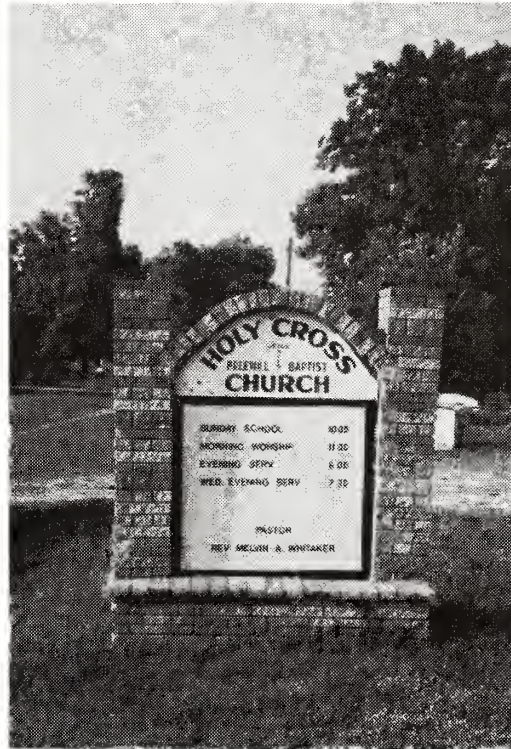


Focusing the Need

Before Friendly Chapel Church can even think of reopening there is a **need!** A new roof on the sanctuary, an "A" roof on the educational department, paint the outside and inside—are all necessary before invitations can be extended for newcomers to come to church.

When Your Help Is Needed

On Saturday, June 9, 1990, a work day has been planned. In just one day, plans call for the reconditioning of this facility. If you can paint, hammer or whatever . . . **YOU CAN HELP!**



Work Day Schedule

8:00 A.M. Devotion by Roger Motsinger
 8:15 A.M. Directions for the Day
 8:30 A.M. Crews Begin to Work
 12:00 Noon Bar-B-Que Chicken with all the trimmings
 1:00 p.m. Continue work until finished
Note: Refreshments will be furnished for breaks.
 (Ladies to bring a lunch basket)

Be Sure

To Bring: Lawn Chair
 Tools you plan to use
 Paint brushes, rollers and roller pans
 Your friends and youth

Let Us Know

Let the Home Missions Department know if you plan to attend. It is important to plan the work and lunch. Contact the Rev. David C. Hansley at the Headquarters; phone (919) 746-4963.

Directions to Friendly Chapel

Traveling from Durham on I-40/I-85
 - Take Exit 128 at Greensboro—right

- First left, U-turn; go under I-40 on Lee Street

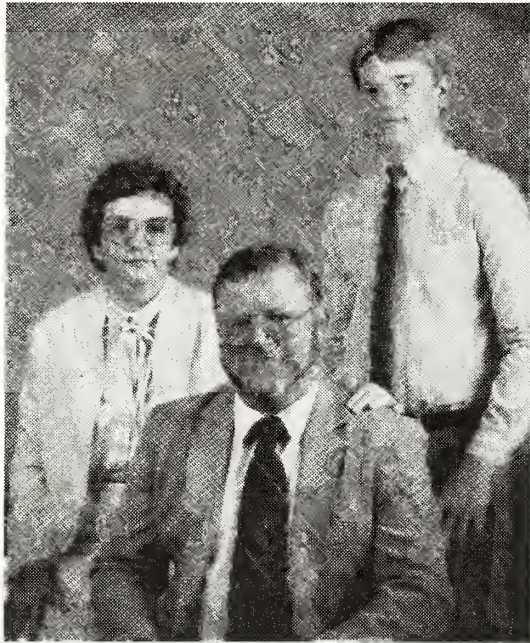
- Take first left to first street (Friendly Chapel)

From High Point on I-85 North/I-40 East

- Take Exit 128/Lee Street—right

- Follow Lee Street about 2 blocks to first left until you come to Friendly Chapel Street (on your left). Church will be in sight.

BAKER FAMILY RECEIVES NEW 9G VISAS



by Fred P. Baker

Excitement mounted as we opened the envelope. Waiting six months for this letter resulted in much prayer, discussion and even speculation. What would the contents reveal? The new law states that expatriate missionaries can stay only up to ten years in the Philippines and then they must leave. The letter comes out of the envelope. It is being unfolded! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! The members of the Baker family have officially been given new 9G visas for three years, March 1, 1990-1993. We may even apply for an extension or renewal in 1993.

The Philippines had refused to renew our old visas because we had already been in the Philippines over ten years. Therefore, Fred, Linda and Stevie returned to the Philippines in June 1989 on 9A, or tourist, visas. We immediately applied for new 9G visas to begin another ten-year period. The attorney told us not to get our hopes up because a lot of missionaries in our situation were being given only one year nonrenewable visas. They would have to leave the country at the end of this time and not return.

The attorney was not impressed when she discovered that all of our supporting papers for the visa application process were in our file cabinet on the boat somewhere on the high seas between the United States and the Philippines. I had forgotten to bring them. I did have a North Carolina driver's license but immigration would not be interested in that.

We were not impressed when we arrived at the courtroom of the Immigration and Deportation Commission for our hearing and the attorney did not show up as planned and promised. After several delays, the judge finally allowed Fred to approach the bench and answer the questions in the absence of the attorney, who was stranded in a classic Metro Manila traffic jam. She arrived as we were leaving the building.

The Baker family members have been deeply impressed at how our great God can work out His will, even without supporting papers or an attorney. We thank God for granting to us these 9G visas which are even renewable. Please join us in a celebration of praise to our God for His

faithfulness to us.

A special "Thank you" to each of you that has been faithful in praying daily for us and for our change of visa status.

Why don't we close by singing that wonderful hymn of praise, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." God bless you is our prayer.

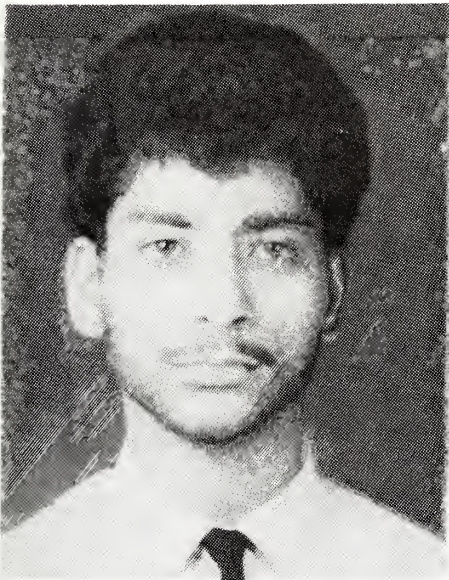
AGRA IS BECOMING A STRONGHOLD OF OUR CHURCH

by Dr. E. M. Lall

I am delighted to report that Agra, the city of the Taj Mahal, is gaining momentum so far as the work of our church is concerned. We have at the moment 83 strong adult members in the congregation. It is not a rural church, but one of literate people, some of them professors in the Degree College at Agra.

When I picked up Jyoti Prakash, he was ordained as deacon. He worked very well and constituted a good congregation, he deserved ordination as a full fledged minister of that congregation. He was previously working with the Bible Society of India, but having heard of our church, seeing our church Constitution through someone, felt inspired to work with us. After he came in the fold of our church he resigned his job with the Bible society. In his testimony he said that he had a call from the Lord to be a minister of His good tidings rather than a seller at the Bible Society. Examining various perspectives, our council of ministers and deacons proposed that Joyti Prakash be ordained as a minister, which was done on December 21, 1989.

Looking to the vast area of the city of Agra, with the radius of 18 miles, it became imperative to ordain one deacon to work with the Rev. Jyoti Prakash. Therefore, Jai Prakash (not related to Jyoti Prakash) was also ordained. Jai Prakash was a member of our church while he was working with



Jai Prakash

a Japanese team of evangelists in the vicinity of Agra. He had a preaching background because of a good access on the Word of God. He came over to attend our church convention in 1989 and was greatly impressed. He was regarded as the best camper. We are glad to have this young man with us and hope that many lost souls will be won in the time to come.

The city of Agra is well known throughout the World for the Taj Mahal, which is one of the wonders of the world. We are happy for this achievement under God's guidance. He works in a wonderful way!

RESOURCE MATERIALS FOR P.B.C. LIBRARY

by Cerelina S. Cababaro, Senior Bachelor in Bible Education

We received 12 boxes of resource materials from North Carolina for Palawan Bible College Library last November 20, 1989. They contained 579 books, 14 *Guideposts*, 35 pamphlets, and 8 nursery books. We, the library staff—Miss Analiza Padilla, Miss Warlita Franco, Mrs. Rosana Briones, Brother Fernando Erum, and myself—worked hand-in-hand to process those materials for early circulation.

As of February 21, 1990, our library has a total number of 3,859 books. It also has some resource materials such as clippings, vertical files, bound periodicals, *Reader's Digest*, *National Geographics*, and other periodicals and magazines.

Our library is the biggest Bible school library in Palawan, because of God's grace and through your support. We prayerfully hope our library will serve us

as an educational unit to equip the students, faculty, staff, pastors, and Bible women to work effectively and efficiently for God's glory.

Please continue to pray for the P.B.C. library. Please pray for the extension of the library building and for more bookshelves. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers and supporting the Palawan Bible School library.

NEW ENGINE AND TRANSMISSION FOR JEEP

by Fred P. Baker

The heart of any vehicle is its engine. There seems to be a time for all engines when their get up and go has already got up and gone. That is a pretty good description of the 1942 model Willy's engine that has powered the jeep which the Baker family has used for the past several years. Spare parts were also getting pretty hard to find.

Knowing that the eventful day was soon coming, Fred kept his eyes open for a good replacement engine. In November of 1989, he found what he had been looking for. It was a Toyota "L" Diesel with a four speed, four wheel drive transmission. It was a surplus engine and transmission imported from Japan. Fred was able to hear the engine run before purchasing it. For a used engine, it runs very well.

The engine and transmission were crated in Manila and shipped to Puerto Princesa, where we live, to be installed into the jeep. It took about four weeks to complete the installation process.

It is great to have the jeep back in operation and running so well. The jeep is used by the Baker family in ministry on the island of Palawan. We praise God, from whom all blessings flow, for the new engine and transmission which will cut operational costs

and time spent at the repair shop.

"Thank you" to each one of you who share in God's work here in the Philippines. It is a joy to serve the Lord with you.

STUDENTS HONORED AT MOC

The following Free Will Baptist students were among those recognized this year for their achievements in academics, athletics and student life at Mount Olive College.

Jennifer Barefoot of Robert's Grove Church, Sampson County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Barefoot, elected 1990-91 Student Government Association (SGA) secretary.

Kimberly Beasley of Hopewell Church, Johnston County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Graylon Beasley, LEADER* in MOC Honors Program.

Michele Brown of Bethlehem Church, Duplin County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Jones, Scholar Athlete of the Year. (She is a senior tennis player with a 3.3 grade point average. She also won this award in 1989.)

Amy Bunn of Daniels Chapel Church, Wilson County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bunn, SCHOLAR** in MOC Honors Program.

Cecil L. Cahoon II of Bridgeton Church, Craven County, son of

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Cahoon third prize in *The Olive Branch* literary contest for his poem "Invitation."

Kevin W. Dilday of Hickory Grove Church, Hertford County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Dilday, SCHOLAR in MOC Honors Program.

Jeffery L. Grubbs of Hull Road Church, Greene County, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Leon Grubbs, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Stephanie Green of Pine Level Church, Johnston County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carol S. Green, recognized as SGA treasurer for 1989-90.

Dalen Herring of Harrells Chapel Church, Greene County, Coach's Award in Softball.

Dwayne Jones of Mt. Zion Church, Washington County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jones Jr., Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award.

Sherrie G. Martin of Shady Grove Church, Sampson County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Martin Jr., LEADER in MOC Honors Program and recognized as SGA vice president for 1989-90.

Tanya Merritt of Northeast Church, Wayne County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Merritt, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Tammy Mohn of Jackson

Heights Church, Lenoir County, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Ronnie Mohn, SCHOLAR in MOC Honors Program.

Shannon Moore of Pleasant Hill Church, Wayne County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Moore, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Christopher L. Paul of Arapahoe Church, Pamlico County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Paul, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Stephen M. Prescott of Rock of Zion Church, Pamlico County, SCHOLAR in MOC Honors Program.

Andrew Silverthorne of Bethel Church, Pamlico County, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Silverthorne, SCHOLAR in MOC Honors Program.

Lenwood Smith II of St. Mary's Church, Craven County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lenwood Smith, Science/Mathematics Award, SCHOLAR in MOC Honors Program, and student marshal for 1990-91.

Sylvia Suggs of Macedonia Church, Columbus County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Garland Suggs, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Pamela J. Swinson of Harmony Church, Wilson County, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Swinson, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Michele Taylor of White Oak Grove Church, Lenoir County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Taylor, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Wendy G. Taylor of Rock Springs, Nash County, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Anthony Thompson of Little Rock Church, Wilson County, son of Ms. Ernestine Thompson, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

Todd Tinker of Free Union Church, Beaufort County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood S. Tinker Jr., LEADER in MOC Honors Program.



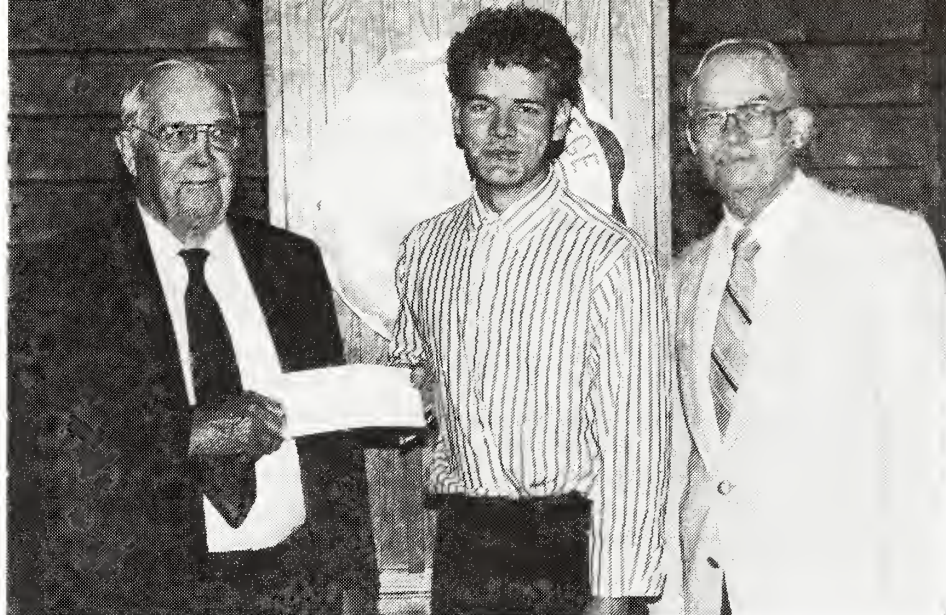
Dwayne Jones of Mt. Zion Church in Washington County, is presented the *Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award* by Dr. K. David Hines, Director of Education for Christian Ministries at MOC. The award is provided by the Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association. This award honors students with the potential and commitment to becoming a minister.

Dirk van der Plas of Arapahoe Church, Pamlico County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willem van der Plas, Religion/Philosophy Award given in honor of the Rev. James A. Evans.

Brent Williams of Daley's Chapel, Lenoir County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Williams, LEADER in MOC Honors Program.

*The LEADERS Program consists of service and project opportunities in various departments of the College. Each LEADER is expected to provide a minimum of forty hours of service to MOC during the academic year. LEADERS must maintain a 2.8 grade point average and be an active member of an organization sponsored by the Student Government Association.

**The SCHOLARS Program consists of seminars, research, and independent and supervised study with faculty mentors. SCHOLARS must maintain a 3.0 grade point average as a freshman and sophomore and a 3.2 grade point average as a junior and senior.

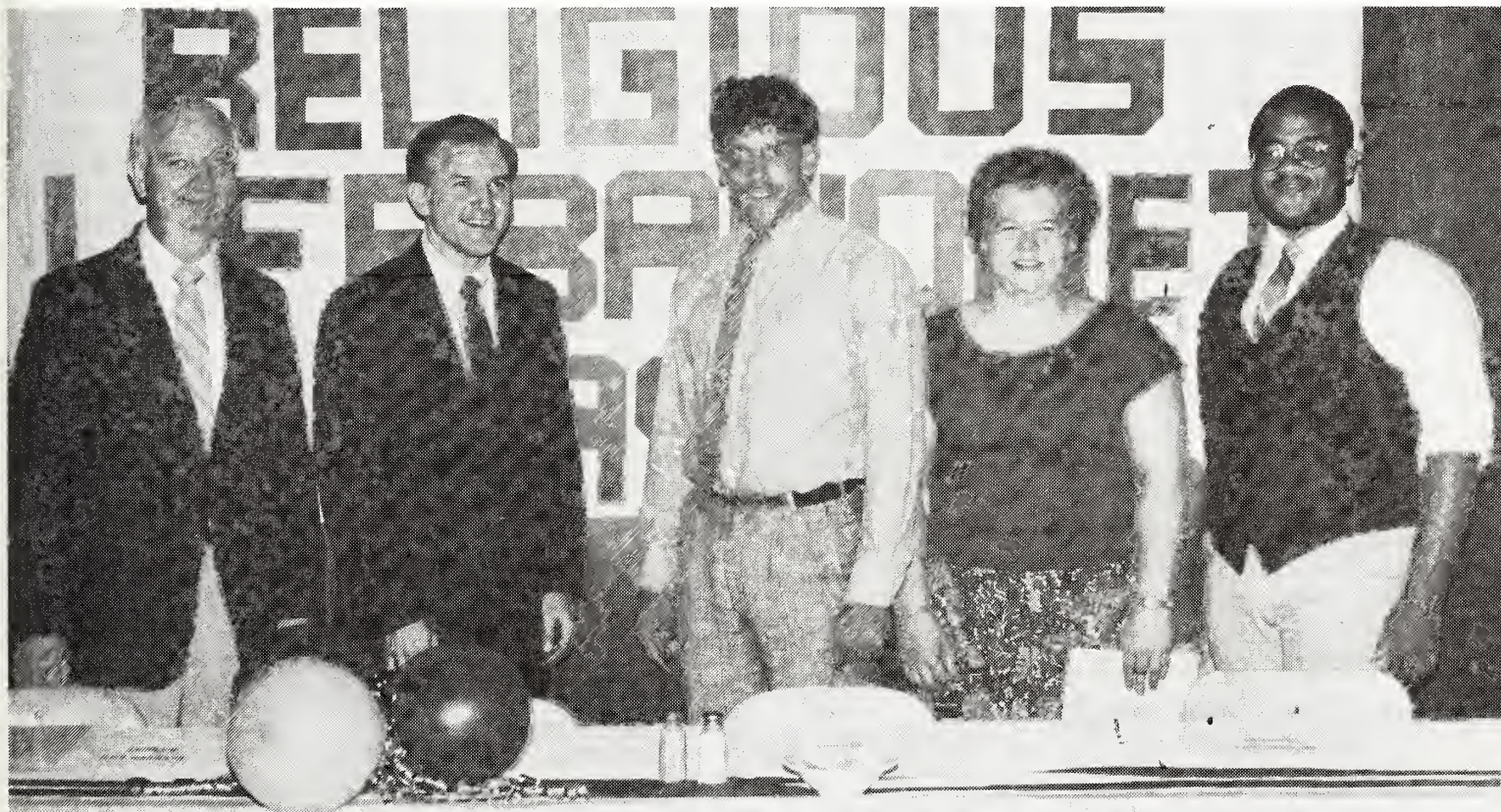


Dirk van der Plas of Arapahoe Church in Pamlico County receives the *Religion/Philosophy Award* from the Rev. James A. Evans. The recipient is selected by the MOC Department of Religion and Philosophy in honor of Mr. Evans' work in the Free Will Baptist denomination. The award is a scholarship from the earnings of the Faye A. and James A. Evans Scholarship Endowment at the College.

Mr. Evans was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister in 1925. He is a former superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home and was the first full-time employee of Mount Olive College, serving as director of Public Relations in 1954.

Also pictured is Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion and Philosophy.

MOC ORGANIZATIONS SPONSOR RELIGIOUS LIFE BANQUET



The Theological Fellowship, the Baptist Student Union, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Free Will Baptist June 1990

Fellowship sponsored their first Religious Life Banquet at Mount Olive College on April 25. Featured speaker was Mr. Bob

Wolfe, former coach at Eastern Wayne High School and Goldsboro High School, who is actively

(Turn the Page)

involved in the North Carolina chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

A student from each organization was selected as that club's nominee for the Religious Life Award. Pictured are (l-r) Mr. Frank R. Harrison, College Chaplain; Mr. Wolfe; and the student nominees, Steven Mintz, Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Leigh Strickland, Baptist Student Union; and J. David Ealy, Free Will Baptist Fellowship. Not pictured is Dirk van der Plas, Theological Fellowship (photo by Sandra Phelps).

LAYMAN'S LEAGUE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT SET FOR JUNE 2

The Revs. Harold Jones and Ray Wells will be the speakers at the annual Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat to be held at Eagle's Nest, Saturday, June 2.

Mr. Jones is director of the Foreign Missions Board of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Mr. Wells is chairman of the Home Missions and Evangelism Board and pastor of Marsh Swamp Church.

Sponsored jointly by the Free Will Baptist State Layman's League and Mount Olive College, the retreat is a time for Bible study, prayer and group discussion. The theme of this year's retreat is "Weapons for Christian Victory."

The day's activities will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4:15 p.m. The cost of lunch is \$5.

For additional information, contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919-658-2502, ext. 100).

AYDEN SEMINARY-EUREKA COLLEGE ALUMNI AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The joint meeting of the Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Alumni and the North Carolina Free Will Historical Society will be held

Wednesday, June 27, in the Ayden Church Fellowship Hall.

The program begins at 10 a.m. and will feature a presentation on "The Origin and Early Development of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home." The Rev. Jeff Daughtry will be the speaker.

All ministers, family members of the Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Alumni and others interested in the history of the Original Free Will Baptists are invited to attend. Ministers are asked to announce the meeting in

THIRTY-SIXTH COMMENCEMENT GRADUATION EXERCISES AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Pepper Worthington
Professor of English
Mount Olive College

"You have completed another step of your intellectual and spiritual growth," said Dr. Paul P. Griffin, past director of Pediatric Orthopaedics at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, speaker at the Thirty-sixth Commencement Graduation Exercises at Mount Olive College, May 12, in College Hall. Dr. Griffin is the son of the late Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Griffin. Mr. Griffin was a pastor in the Free Will Baptist Church for 57 years.

Looking carefully at the excited students soon to receive their diplomas, Dr. Griffin added, "For you to have your degree from a small liberal arts college is an honor and a privilege. The professors here know your weaknesses and strengths. I wish you continued development in your process of becoming educated. I hope you will continue to explore and to search for answers to new questions."

Dr. Griffin insisted upon the focus of spiritual as well as moral growth in the acquisition of knowledge. "The arms of education are part and parcel of the discussion of moral and ethical philosophy," he declared. As a

their churches.

Ayden Seminary had its beginning in 1887, grew into Eureka College in the 1920s and continued operation until 1929. The dream of a college continued to exist among the Free Will Baptists in North Carolina and resulted in the birth of Mount Olive College.

For further information on the meeting, contact Frank R. Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919-658-2502, ext. 100).

physician in pediatric orthopaedics, Dr. Griffin recognizes the essential importance of an ethical foundation in learning. "The way you live your lives will be a testimony to Mount Olive College."

To identify five crucial values in his own educational development, Dr. Griffin recalled the impact his parents made upon him, the youngest of seven children of J. C. and Bertha Griffin. "My parents loved. The neighbor who needed love was given love by my parents. This love made my mother and my father servants to anyone in need. During the Depression anyone who would knock on our door or ask for food or clothing would not be turned away. My mother would share all that she had. My mother did the washing and ironing for a mother who was stressed out by work outside the home. I grew up seeing the value of love for others. This love is essential to success."

Turning to a value his father taught him, Dr. Griffin said, "My father in the Depression continued to push and improve his church. He had a *positive attitude* generated by his Christian faith. Where there is faith, all things are possible."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

He paused. His voice quivered. Memory was more than a thought; it was an essential part of the fabric of the present moment.

"I remember when I was a child and I would talk to my mother while she was ironing. We would discuss my ambition to be a truck driver. My mother told me to be a truck driver was important. I could help people. I could help people move. I could take things to the store. What was important was to serve people. I could be the best truck driver in the world."

He paused again.

"My mother would use the same approach when I said I wanted to be a fireman or a policeman. She told me I would have a chance to serve others."

Dr. Griffin looked out over the packed audience in College Hall. Stillness swept across the enormous room as his voice softened.

"A third value is necessary for success," he continued. "Every setback in my family became a new challenge. My parents would overcome adversity through *persistence*. I believe persistence is absolutely necessary for success in life."

Smiling, the students about to receive their degrees understood the meaning of persistence.

"Yet there is another value essential to success. This value is the sphere that circles the first three. *Commitment* to spiritual growth, to your family, to your community is crucial. Alexander Hamilton said a man should be ashamed to die without having one great victory for humanity. Let me tell you what happened to me," said Dr. Griffin as he leaned closer to the microphone.

A hush swept through College Hall.

"One day when I was strolling a street in Raleigh, I saw a little girl on crutches. She had fallen and no one came to help her. I picked her up. I looked at her eyes. I can't tell you what I saw in her eyes, in her

look, but I became committed at that moment to helping cripple children. The next day I sent out an application to medical school. I went to medical school, took anatomy, science, and all the academic courses required. I kept trying to quit, but I stayed. Something was missing in my education. The year I was in post medical school, I liked all areas of surgery. I could succeed in more than one area. But I was not truly happy. My wife asked me, 'Why did you go to medical school?' I replied, 'To help cripple children.' That put me back on the track. I had lost my direction, but I was fortunate. I kept pursuing. I kept looking. I returned to my commitment. Commitment is necessary to success."

Softly Dr. Griffin concluded, "But I believe you also need *knowledge* to know how to serve. Yet the knowledge alone is not sufficient. That inner drive to acquire the knowledge you need must move you. These values—*love, a positive attitude, persistence, commitment, and knowledge*—are the stepping stones to a fruitful life."

With a warm smile and a voice of celebration, Dr. Griffin concluded, "When I look into the eyes of a child, I look in awe not for what that child is today but for

what that child may become, for what's behind that child's eyes, for what drive that child may develop. When I look at you graduates, I remember where I sat forty-one years ago. I look at you in awe because of what you may become and what you may give to your society."

I left College Hall with the ebullient new alumni of Mount Olive College. As we all celebrated on the grounds with a picnic, hugs, photographs, and cheers, I kept seeing in my mind the little girl on crutches who fell that day in Raleigh. I kept seeing Paul Griffin go over to her, gently pick her up, and look into her eyes. I felt her eyes. I felt the tremor of her pain and the relief of this strange man's touch upon her shoulders. The fall of this crippled girl that day in Raleigh was not a fall without purpose. When she rose up with the help of Paul Griffin, she had said through her eyes, "Think what I could become."

Her eyes burned a vision across Paul Griffin's memory, gave to him the core of his commitment to serve cripple children.

God's miracles are at work today.

God's messengers come to us in unexpected places.

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

Saturday, June 2

Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat, Eagle's Nest Conference Center
9 a.m.-4:15 p.m., Theme: "Weapons for Christian Victory"

June 25—July 27

SUMMER SCHOOL—Session B

Wednesday, June 27

Ayden Seminary/Eureka College Alumni and the Free Will Baptist
Historical Society Meeting

10 a.m., Ayden Church Fellowship Hall

Program by the Rev. Jeff Daughtry, "The Origin and Early Development of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home."

Monday-Tuesday, August 6-7

Ministers' Institute, Mount Olive College

Sponsored by MOC and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

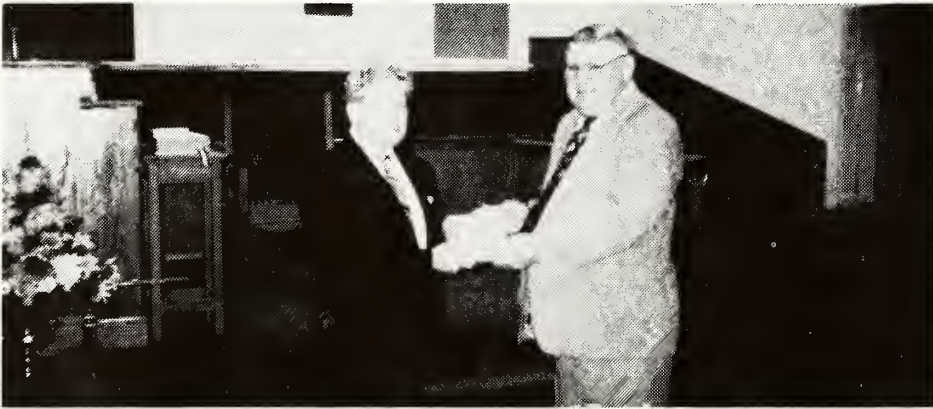
CHURCHES SUPPORT RETIREMENT HOMES MINISTRY

by the Rev. Walter Sutton



Walter J. Sutton, director of the Retirement Homes ministry, visited the House of Prayer Church, Kernersville, NC, where the Rev. Carlee Stallard is pastor, on Sunday evening, March 4. She is seen here presenting coin folders and an offering from the church in support of the Retirement Homes program.

We appreciate the prayer and gift support from the House of Prayer congregation and their pastor, Mrs. Stallard, for encouraging support of all our ministries of the Convention.



Pictured here is Brother Bobby Carden, pastor of White Oak Church in Bladenboro, presenting gifts to Walter J. Sutton, director of the Retirement Homes ministry. We appreciate the gift support we are receiving regularly from this congregation and their prayers for this ministry. We appreciate Brother Carden and his support for each ministry of our Convention.



Pictured is Brother Buddy Cribb presenting gifts to Walter J. Sutton for the Retirement Homes ministry, from the Whiteville Mission, Whiteville. Brother Cribb is a member of Beaverdam Church, with great interest in the Whiteville Mission. He has given his time and leadership to help the mission. We appreciate Brother Garland Suggs who is Mission pastor at Whiteville. Their prayer and gift support to Retirement Homes help make the difference.

**GOSPEL
SING!
LABORERS FOR
CHRIST**

**Guests:
THE ANCHORMEN
THE SENTINELS
ELSIE GRANVILLE**

Saturday, June 9

7 P.M.

**Reeves Auditorium
at
Methodist College**

Fayetteville, NC

Donation: \$5

For tickets call:

**Dennis/Gail Canady
919-425-1562
Bobby/Caroly Hales
919-867-6479**

JUNE IS CRAGMONT MONTH

The ministries of our denomination are given one or two months by the State Convention. The purpose of this is to call special attention to that particular ministry during its month and to inform the people of the denomination what the ministry is about and of its needs. June is the month that has been given to Cragmont.

Cragmont has been called by one of our board members "the people place." Cragmont is a conference and retreat center with some regularly scheduled conferences and retreats that are attended by the people of our denomination. Some of the conferences are youth conferences and are scheduled during the summer months. The purpose of the youth conferences is the teaching of "Christian living." This is hopefully accomplished through recreation, devotions, Bible discussions, and the proclaiming of the gospel.

Recreation: To show the young that there is fun and games in the Christian life. *Bible discussions:* To give young people the opportunity to ask questions and receive feedback from qualified leaders. *Devotions:* To teach young people to develop their own devotional life. *Preaching:* To give those young people who have never made a profession of faith a chance to do so.

While Cragmont has for a long time had a reputation of being a youth camp, we are not totally youth oriented. For many years, the Woman's Auxiliary has sponsored two weeks especially for the women of the denomination. Also, the ministers have held their annual ministers' conference for many years. In the last several years, a great interest has been shown in individual

church weekend retreats. Cragmont is a place where people of all ages are ministered to. Calling Cragmont "the people place" is accurate because one ministers to people—not issues, places, or things. Cragmont is a place where people gather to worship, recreate, and enjoy one another's company, it just happens to have the added enjoyment of being located in the mountains.

Below are some suggestions for your church as a whole or as individuals to consider as a way of helping Cragmont during the month of June.

Prayer: We always need your prayers, but we ask you to say a special prayer each Sunday during the month of June as a church together.

Special Offering: During the month of June, have your church take up a special offering for Cragmont. I would suggest that you promote this offering the entire month and receive the offering the last Sunday in the month.

Visitation: It is our hope that you may visit Cragmont some time during the year. By your visit, you will see firsthand the importance of Cragmont's ministry.

Invite us to your church: There is a team of Cragmont supporters who are willing to go to any church for the purpose of promoting Cragmont in your church. We would love to come and show slides and answer questions. If you are interested, then call our office to schedule a time.

REMEMBER: JUNE IS CRAGMONT MONTH



CRAGMONT JUBILEE

The Cragmont Board of Directors met February 19, 1990, at the Free Will Baptist Press for its annual meeting. One item that should have great impact upon Cragmont is what will be called "Cragmont Jubilee."

The year 1995 marks Cragmont's 50th anniversary. Thoughts naturally turned toward planning some sort of celebration in honor of our 50th year. All of the members of the Board agreed that the greatest celebration of all would be if Cragmont were debt free. Out of this thinking came the plan for the Cragmont Jubilee.

The concept of Jubilee is taken from Leviticus 24, where the "Year of Jubilee" is explained. The Year of Jubilee is the 50th year when all debts are wiped clean. It is our plan that Cragmont be debt free by its 50th year, 1995. We need to find 400 people who will pledge \$1,000 over the next five years. This will be payable as follows: 1) \$1,000 for the full amount, 2) \$200 per year, 3) \$100 semiannually, or 4) \$50 quarterly.

This pledge could be made by churches, Sunday Schools, Woman's Auxiliaries, youth groups, individuals, families, etc. It must be stressed that these funds must be over and above what you are presently giving in order to achieve the goal of being debt free.

Our Board members are very excited about this plan. They believe we can make it happen. Plans are also being made to burn the note in 1995 in a big celebration in which the entire Free Will Baptist denomination will be invited to participate. More detailed information will be reported at a later time.

1990 CRAGMONT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Below you will find the schedule of conferences and the person to contact for registering.

JUNE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

June 11-16
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

June 18-21
Marvin Waters
2413 Brices Creek Road
New Bern, NC 28560

CHRISTIAN CADET

June 25-30
Gary Bailey
112 Crosswinds Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

YOUTH FRONTIER (YFA)

July 2-7
Scott and Janie Sowers
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

YOUTH FRONTIER (AFC)

July 9-14
Doug Skinner
804 Cooper Street
Winterville, NC 28590

GENERAL YOUTH II

July 16-21
Chris Singleton
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

GENERAL YOUTH I

July 23-28
Bryant Hines
Box 266
Cove City, NC 28523

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE

July 30—August 4
James Gurganus
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 6-11
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

FALL LIMITED EDITION

October 15-18
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB I

October 19-21
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CRAGMONT CLUB II

October 26-28
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

CORNERSTONE

November 23-25
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

SNOW HOUND

December 28-January 1
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711

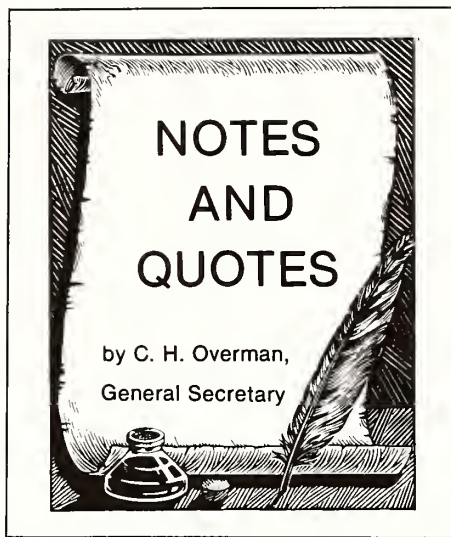


We would like to share our family ministry in song, testimonies and preaching with you. If you can use us in your revivals, homecomings, song services, special meetings, and so forth, please contact Earl R. Turnage, Licensed Original Free Will Baptist Minister, Route 1, Box 479, Beaufort, NC 28516.

Happy Father's
Day

Share the Joy

Congratulations,
Graduates!



NEW FIVE-YEAR-THEME

Our State Convention's new five-year theme is "Hear the Word of the Lord." The Scripture is Isaiah 39:5b. The annual themes are: Commitment, 1990-91; Outreach, 1991-92; Discipleship, 1992-93; Stewardship, 1993-94; Ministry, 1994-95. During each of these years, emphasis will be placed on "Hearing the Word" as it relates to each of these five-year themes.

Each of our ministries will seek to incorporate the theme into their reports and displays. The 1990 session of the Convention will stress "Hearing the Word of the Lord regarding Christian Commitment." The Conferences will also be encouraged to use the theme, as well as pastors and local churches, incorporating it into their revivals and other services.

On May 31, 1990, the executive committee of the State Convention met with the ministry directors, board chairmen, and conference moderators to present and discuss the theme and also other ways to coordinate the work of our Convention. (At the time of this writing, however, this meeting has not yet taken place. Thus, we will reserve additional comments until later.)

MINISTRY PLANS

Free Will Baptists are pleased

to learn that the Foreign Missions Board is planning to begin a work in Eastern Europe. This plan was first announced by the Rev. Paul Grubbs at the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention on May 9, 1990. The Grubbs family only recently returned to the states from the Philippines. The Grubbs family and the van Der Plas family will head up this new work, beginning sometime in 1991. Let us remember this endeavor in our prayers, especially for the leadership of God as to the specific country where this work will be carried on.

The Home Missions and Evangelism director, the Rev. David C. Hansley, has developed a new club, called the "Seed Club." Its appeal is to children and involves the collection of pennies for Home Missions. When a total of \$4 is collected and turned in, each youth receives a "Seed Club" certificate. Pennies do make dollars. Sunday School teachers and youth workers have a good opportunity to challenge the children to make their contribution to our Home Missions program.

Cragmont Assembly has launched its "Cragmont Jubilee" campaign. The year 1995 marks Cragmont's 50th anniversary. Thoughts by the Board naturally turned toward planning some sort of celebration in honor of the 50th year. All the members of the Board agreed that the greatest celebration of all would be if Cragmont were debt free. Out of this came the plan for the Cragmont Jubilee. The concept of Jubilee is taken from Leviticus 24, where the "Year of Jubilee" is put forth. The year of Jubilee is the 50th year when all debts are wiped clean. It is the plan of the Cragmont Board to be debt free in five years. Churches, church groups, and individuals will be called upon to make pledges to help retire the debt. Free Will Baptists will be hearing more about this "Year of Jubilee" in the weeks

and months to come. Let's make this dream a reality so that five years from now we can join together in a big celebration, just as the Board has envisioned.

THE ESTABLISHED HEART

"His heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. His heart is established. He shall not be afraid" (Psalm 112:7-8).

A cool head and a steady hand are invaluable assets in troubled times. The psalmist informs us that the person who trusts in God will be neither disturbed or dismayed, no matter how numerous or mighty are the assaults against him. Nothing can undermine his stability. The person who trusts in God can say of all his enemies, even as Athanasius said of Julian who persecuted him, "He is a mist, and will soon disappear."

The question might be asked, "How may these articulated bones of ours become the formidable force before which both adversity and adversary will be obliged to retire?" The answer to this question is simple, "Let the breath of the eternal God be breathed into us." As a frail wire plus the electric current can do more than massive cables without it, so can the person in whom God's Spirit lives do more than he who knows not God. The secret of a powerful and efficient life is God.

Shakespeare said, "Conscience doth make cowards of us all." But through faith in God, conscience, mind, and heart are strengthened. Life, then, is marked by calmness, self-possession, and firmness. John Wesley, even as the darkness settled upon his earthly life, fell asleep whispering: "The best of all is—Immanuel—God with us." That is life's most steadying truth, a truth that makes us strong in death, and—what is more—strong in life.—The Rev. Bruce Dudley, pastor First Church, Kinston, NC.

FATHER: A FAMILIAR TERM

by Lynette Sumerlin

Since this is the month we celebrate Father's Day, I thought it might be interesting to see how many of the following verses containing the word FATHER are familiar to you. The world is full of fathers, but each of these verses refers to just one father—God, our Heavenly Father. Fill in the blanks with the missing words.

1. "... he that hath _____ me hath _____ the Father ..." (John 14:9).
2. "In my Father's house are many _____: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a _____ for you" (John 14:2).
3. "I and my Father are _____" (John 10:30).
4. "I am the true _____, and my Father is the _____" (John 15:1).
5. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the _____, the _____, and the _____: no man cometh unto the Father, but by _____" (John 14:6).
6. "... and his name shall be called _____, _____, The mighty _____, The everlasting Father, The _____ of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).
7. "Let your _____ so shine before men, that they may see your good _____, and glorify your Father which is in _____" (Matthew 5:16).
8. "Be ye therefore _____, even as your Father which is in heaven is _____" (Matthew 5:48).
9. "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, _____ be thy _____" (Matthew 6:9).
10. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the _____ of _____; but he that doeth the _____ of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).
11. "... O my Father, if it be possible, let this _____ pass from me: nevertheless, not as I _____, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39).
12. "Go ye therefore, and _____ all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the _____, and of the Holy _____" (Matthew 28:19).
13. "Then said Jesus, Father, _____ them; for they know not what they _____" (Luke 23:34).
14. "... If any man love the _____, the _____ of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15).
15. "... wist ye not that I must be about my Father's _____?" (Luke 2:49).



A LIGHTED CANDLE IN THE NIGHT

by Woody Peele



Tuesday morning, April 10, they gathered at E. B. Aycock Junior High School's athletic field for the 1990 Special Olympics Spring Games.

The games include 15 sports in a number of age groups for men and women, boys and girls. They range in age from three to 63.

There were more than 550 athletes competing this year, all of them entered in at least two events. There were also more than 600 volunteers, all there to lend their aid to the program, one which is just as special as its name implies.

The games are for those who are physically and mentally impaired, some less, some more so. They are wheelchair-bound, they are blind, and they are sometimes in another kind of darkness.

But they all have one thing in



common, the desire to compete, to show that they are athletes, too, just as surely as those who have been blessed with perfect bodies and minds.

The only difference is that when they lose—no, that's not right—when they finish, they don't go off and hang their heads if they did not cross the line first or throw the softball the greatest distance.

No, they hold their heads high for having accepted the challenge, competed and won. First place? Well, that's nice. There are blue ribbons to show, or red, or yellow or another color.

But what lasts in the mind is the smiles of those who finish, even well behind the one who did cross the line first.

They competed.

They won.

There are no losers.

From this large group, 20 were selected to move on to the State Special Olympics, to be held June 8-10 at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

To the casual bystander, it all looks like organized chaos. All over the track area and the adjoining athletic field, contests are going on all at the same time. Softball throw here, races for girls and women on one side of the track and for boys and men on the other side, standing long jumps there.

There is an area where those seven and under race for 25 meters. Some of them appear to be a little uncertain what this is all about. One little girl starts off, then runs a circular route off the straight track, off onto the baseball field. Another young lad runs the 25 meters and turns and races back to the start. Some just walk the race, shyly, a finger to the mouth.

But, at the end, a hug from a "buddy" awaits them all.

For those who may be more blessed and who run for gold and silver, for big money contracts,

those hugs and cheers would mean little. They can't buy much in the real world.

Here, however, those hugs and cheers mean everything. Their worth is priceless.

The work to put it all together begins in January, led by Connie Sappenfield, the Special Olympics coordinator for the Greenville Recreation and Parks Department, one of the sponsors of the Pitt/Greenville Special Olympics.

"It's amazing how hard they work on this," ECU basketball coach Mike Steele, himself the parent of a Special Olympian, said. "Connie Sappenfield doesn't get the credit she deserves."

Sappenfield admits that she and her staff probably worked 70 hours a week for the three weeks prior to the games. "But these volunteers are the key. If we had to pay them, say \$50 each for their day's work, it would cost us over \$30,000," she said.

Sappenfield said that each of the athletes goes through an eight-week training program prior to the games. "They are trained by coaches who have been through an eight-hour workshop before they can coach. We believe if you have well-trained coaches, you have well-trained athletes."

The games were, in one respect, a dress-rehearsal for next year, when Greenville will host the State Special Olympics. Except, instead of just one event (track and field), there will be 14 different sports. Instead of 500 athletes, there will be 2,500. Instead of 90 coaches, there'll be 700. And instead of 600 volunteers, there will be a need for 1,500 for each of the four days of completion—or a total of 6,000 if no one works more than one day.

It takes time, it takes patience, and it takes courage.

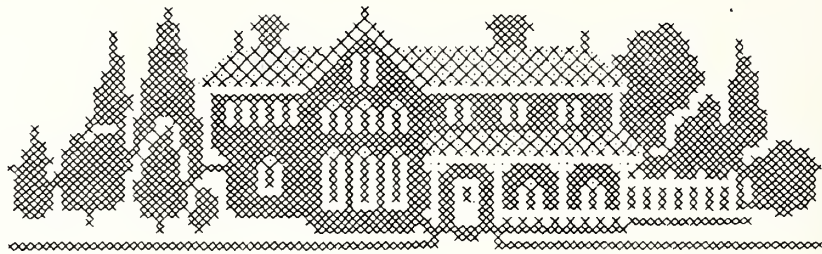
Courage from those who volunteer, those who work in the field, and those who partake in the games themselves, heroes and winners all.

The Special Olympics is a bright light in the darkness of fear and ignorance. Symbolically, each volunteer and worker lights just one candle against this darkness for each athlete to lift high.

Together the flames from those candles make an Olympic torch that casts a bright light warming the heart and soul of each athlete and each volunteer and worker. —Reprinted from *The Daily Reflector*, Wednesday, April 11, 1990.



COMPANY'S COMING!



by Bass Mitchell

"Company's coming!" Those are two of the most dreaded words in our house. Why? Not so much because we don't want the company; it's just what my wife makes us do in preparation. You'd think the President was visiting us! Everything has to be perfect. And everyone has his jobs to do to get ready for "company." Yep, there's "weeping and gnashing of teeth" in our house when it's announced, "Company's coming!"

Now perhaps I need to explain that word "company." I don't know what it means in your part of the country, but in the South it means you're gonna have visitors—usually relatives. We take hospitality very seriously, even for relatives.

As I was thinking about this, it suddenly dawned upon me that many Sunday Schools don't seem all that excited about visitors. If so, they would be better prepared for them than they are!

If you know that company's coming to your home, you're probably going to go to some pains (a lot of pains in my house) to be ready for them. Well, it should be the same way in the Sunday School! We should expect company and be prepared for it!

Here are some things I've learned about how to get ready for the company coming to your Sunday School.

PUT YOURSELF IN THEIR SHOES

Before we get into specifics, try to put yourself in the place of a visitor to your Sunday School. How does it feel to be a visitor? As a visitor, how would you want to be treated? What kind of an experience would you have in your church? What kind of first impressions would you get? Take a few minutes to write down what you think your visit would be like.

Now you could really get brave. Contact some past visitors to your Sunday School. Ask them to enlighten you about their experience. Perhaps you could even do a survey. The results could be interesting and helpful.

PREPARATION BEGINS IN THE PARKING LOT

First impressions are important. One of the first things a visitor looks for is a place to park. Visitors shouldn't have to ride around the church grounds looking for a parking place. Neither should they have to park so far away from the entrance that they're exhausted by the time they get inside!

You should have parking places reserved for visitors that are convenient to the main entrance of the church. Also, you should have signs near the driveways to the parking lot that direct visitors to those places.

When visitors see these kinds of things before they even get into the church building, they feel that this church is ready for them and expecting them. Parking for visitors says, "Welcome!" before they meet anyone!

"FOLLOW ME"

It was embarrassing. I stepped out into the church hallway and saw a rather confused looking young couple. I introduced myself and asked if I could help them. They were visitors and were looking for the appropriate class. In fact, they told me that this was the second time they had walked through the hallway!

Visitors shouldn't have to cruise around the church grounds looking for a parking place. Neither should they have to roam around unfamiliar buildings looking for a class!

Too often the false assumption is made that visitors will be welcomed and taken to the right classes. However, if someone or group isn't given responsibility for it, it often does not get done in

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

the most productive way.

One of the jobs assigned when company's coming to our house is to be the greeter. This is the person who stands at the window or door to welcome company coming to our house. Usually I do this. I welcome them; lead them into the house; offer to take their coats; show them to their rooms; and offer any other assistance they need.

Such persons are needed for the Sunday School. Some call them "greeters." These are persons on the church grounds and/or at all the entrances or walking the halls who are looking for visitors. They give a warm welcome to everyone, but are especially alert for company.

These should be warm, outgoing persons with the gift of friendliness. They just know how to make persons feel welcome. Think for a moment about who these persons are in your church. You have them!

These people must also be very familiar with your Sunday School, especially with where all the classes are located. In fact, it's a good idea to give each of them a little card that has a diagram of the Sunday School. It should list the classes, age groups, and locations for quick reference.

If possible, you could have some training sessions for greeters. They should have a clear understanding of what they are to do and some pointers on how to do it.

Their most important job is to identify visitors and escort them to the right class. They should welcome the visitors, introduce themselves, and get some basic information on the visitors (names, etc.) Some greeters have a card that they fill out or have the visitors fill out. This gives their names, addresses, etc. This certainly needs to be done at some point in their visit. Many churches do this during the worship service.

There are different ways to go about getting these greeters.

Our deacons, or elders, meet each morning before Sunday School for prayer. Afterward, they serve as greeters.

You could assign your adult classes a month of greeter ministry. Then they decide who from the class will do this each Sunday.

One church has a greeter sign-up sheet. Couples in the church volunteer to serve on given Sundays.

IN THE CLASS

It's not enough to just greet the visitors and get them to the right class. This is important. However, perhaps the most crucial impression for visitors comes from being in that class.

When greeters bring visitors to a class, each class should have their own greeters. These are

the persons who welcome the visitors to the class and sit with them during it. They may even, at some point during the class, introduce the visitors to the class in an informal way.

Some classes use the teachers as the greeters. This can be very effective.

Class members also have a role to play. The natural thing is for members to sit in their own little groups and carry on their Sunday conversations as usual. The class, however, must be sensitive to visitors. This means that they will take the initiative to speak to the visitors and engage them in a conversation, letting the visitors do most of the talking. This will help combat that common visitor experience of feeling like an outsider.

A class can also get ready for visitors by wearing name tags. One class made their own personalized class tags. This class also provides a name tag for each visitor. That's one of the responsibilities of the class greeters. Such a simple thing as name tags can mean a lot to visitors. Also, it helps them remember the names of class members.

Another thing a class can do is have the greeters or other designated persons take the visitors to the sanctuary after Sunday School and sit with them during the worship service. One Sunday School class even has a person prepared to invite the visitors to lunch that day!

FOLLOW-UP

What you do while the visitors are there is important. What you do after they leave is also important.

You need to follow-up on every visitor as soon as possible after the visit. Monday isn't too soon. A telephone call from the teacher or a class member is often appreciated. A card or letter is another possibility. In some cases a visit may be best, perhaps the class greeters who sat with them on Sunday.

When you follow-up, express your appreciation for their presence in your class. Invite them back. Also, if you have a class event coming up, for example, a class meeting, invite them to that. Such informal meetings give visitors the chance to begin establishing relationships with class members.

Visitor information should be passed on to the pastor for further follow-up. Information on the children of the visitors should be passed on to youth leaders for follow-up.

Visitors should be genuinely cared for and appreciated. They need to feel that they are welcomed! In other words, they need to know that you were expecting them!

Well, Sunday's coming and so is company! Are you ready?

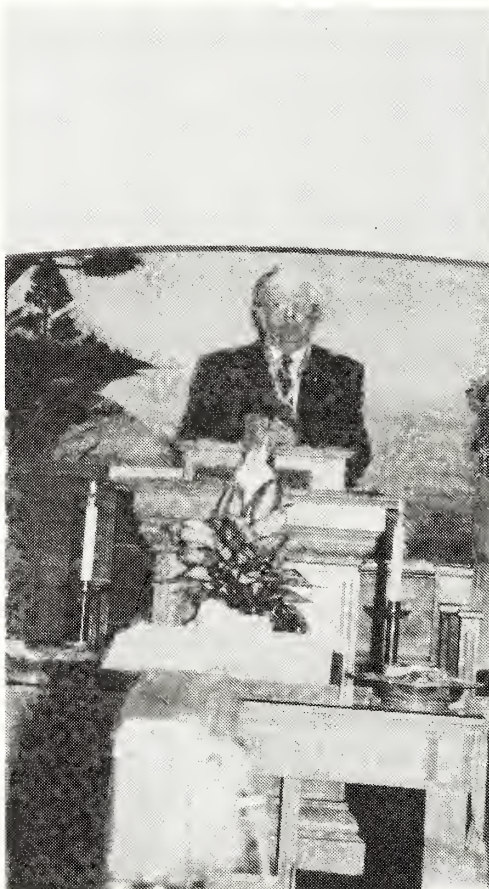


Mr. Futrelle, his wife Hattie Lou, daughters Bonnie, Joan and Alice share in the honors being given the family at the awards presentation.

A personal testimony
 excerpted from the last newsletter
 prepared by the Rev. Foy Futrelle
 while pastor of
 Rose of Sharon Church
 April 1989:

1 Timothy 1:12: "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me in the ministry."

As I meditate on my past life of knowing Christ as my Saviour for over 45 years, truly I am grateful for many callings to be of service to Him. My first calling came in January 1948 to be a teacher in Sunday School and finally the greatest calling of all to be a pastor. A friend of mine remarked this is the highest calling one can receive. You will notice I wrote "pastor." Paul wrote to the Ephesians in 4:11: "*And He gave some, apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers.*" So God does call pastors and teachers.



The Rev. Foy C. Futrelle standing behind the pulpit he loved so well at Rose of Sharon Church, on the day he was presented a distinguished scouting award.

FOY CORNELIUS FUTRELLE

He Lived What He Preached

October 2, 1921—March 22, 1990

by Peggy Bailey

Thursday, March 22, 1990, marked one year since the surgery that explained the discomfort, fatigue and pain he had been feeling. It was a beautiful day so far as the weather goes. The sun warmed the gentle breezes and the voices of spring sang in harmony. The calling birds, the chirping insects, the shrill peeping of rain frogs blended and rode on the air in the stillness of the evening.

Flowers gave off their heady perfume and people moved about, planning and preparing for another spring. A spring that would never be for one man from Wayne County. For Death had stalked his home, his hospital room and his very being until finally, weary of the struggle, Foy Futrelle yielded the battle to the Grim Reaper.

This could not be considered a victory for Death. Actually it was a real favor he had done for Mr. Foy, since only through death can mortal man enter into the gates of Heaven and into the presence of God.

Once again as they fought to the finish, good overcame evil and light overcame darkness when Jesus snatched His own from the clutches of Death and presented him to the Father. There were joy and rejoicing around the throne on March 22, for at last Foy Futrelle was at rest.

It was just six years ago that Foy Futrelle's name kept surfacing to the top of the Rose of Sharon Pulpit Committee's list of prospects. He was not a flashy minister who led large churches, and he did not seek high positions in the enterprises of the

denomination. His had been a quiet ministry, located in a small area of eastern North Carolina. Yet he had created a positive impression on those who knew and worked with him as he pastored rural Free Will Baptist churches.

He had lived his entire life in Wayne County, except for the years he spent at sea during the Second World War. He had been surrounded by brothers, sisters, a loving wife, three wonderful daughters, supportive sons-in-law, five grandchildren, and warm neighbors and friends.

Being an humble and modest man, he found it difficult to believe a church like Rose of Sharon would be interested in his leadership. When the call of the Lord moved in his heart, he felt anxiety and confusion. Was he reading his feelings correctly, or was he just dreaming the dreams of a man getting on in years, one who would soon be retiring from the Postal Service and who had planned to continue pastoring small churches on Sundays, with time to plow and plant the vegetable garden in his backyard that he and Hattie Lou loved so much?

Then when the grandchildren trotted up and down the freshly turned rows he would have time to stop and answer their endless questions they trusted him to know. He loved the way they looked up at his face when he talked to them. He especially liked it when they tugged at his pants leg to get his attention. Their adoring faces looking up at him always brought a special warmth to his heart. He could not imagine leaving all of this to move

to a distant town where he knew absolutely no one.

He felt foolish every time he thought of the demands a full-time pastorate would have on a person who was not college educated except for extension and continuing education courses, mixed in with healthy doses of self-improvement projects.

When he could no longer deny the turmoil in his heart, he turned to his wife for the help he knew she could give. As always, she responded to his needs, though unspoken. She had listened to his dreams for too many years not to know that this was the most important decision he would ever make. He had talked about total submission being a requisite for any Christian; and if he was to be true to his own preaching, and if God was truly calling, there would be no happiness in their life, lest they go.

Typically for Hattie Lou, she took his hand, looked at him tenderly, and spoke with love the most beautiful words any minister would ever hear. "If you want to go to Bear Grass, then we'll go." For a moment, instead of joy at having such a devoted wife, he again felt fear. Perhaps deep down he had hoped she might try to talk him out of foolish notions like leaving their comfortable home, their daughter and grandchildren next door, the quaint little church they were now pastoring. Hearing her statement made so calmly, he knew now what he must do.

The next Sunday night he pulled out his best sermon and drove the 60 miles to Martin County with

(Turn the Page)

Hattie Lou at his side. They were silent much of the time it took to drive to Rose of Sharon. They were unsure of what to expect, but they were sure they had made the right decision. For now they knew that even if they were not selected by the congregation to serve as pastor, they had stood the test. They were in total submission to the Lord they served. They were truly willing to give actions to thoughts and ideals. Whatever the outcome of the trial sermon, God would still be in charge.

The rest is now history. Foy Futrelle came and preached. The people listened and liked what they saw and heard. It was unanimously voted to issue the call, which Hattie Lou and Foy accepted, trembling at times, exultant at others.

It was hard to tell the family of the move. It was not easy to leave the Warsaw Church, or the neighbors and friends. But they steadfastly packed and labeled boxes of belongings and furniture and on a beautiful day in September 1984, they were greeted at their new house by friends who immediately made them feel at home.

The years passed. The church grew in strength and number. Mr. Futrelle accepted all who came through the church doors into his home and in the community with love. He pointed the way of salvation to scores of people from the pulpit and to dozens who were drawn to him as he mingled in the neighborhood.

At funerals he gave dignity to even the most down and out. Before weddings he addressed issues and potential problems facing couples, giving them insight needed to establish Christian homes. He visited the sick and dying at home and in hospitals, offering solace and peace to those in pain, and always encouraging the caregivers who suffered in the background. He performed his duties as pastor to 150 people,

delivering two sermons on Sunday, holding mid-week prayer services, leading various committees, and participating in the local ministerial association. He served as chaplain at Pitt Memorial Hospital and Martin General Hospital several days each month, where he counseled any who needed assistance, regardless of race, creed, color, or religious affiliation.

He was instrumental in getting a chapel established at Martin General Hospital for use by patients, their families and the working staff.

In early 1989, Mr. Futrelle began to show signs of health problems. Though he tried hard to keep them hidden, they soon overpowered him, and he sought help from Greenville physicians, who finally recommended surgery. That surgery did not take long for the doctors found a large malignant tumor that could not be removed. His family was told he had a very limited time to live, perhaps three months or less.

The congregation's tears flowed unchecked down their cheeks, mixing with those on the faces of three crushed daughters and a stunned unbelieving wife.

Mr. Futrelle faced this as he had all the other problems in his life. He placed everything in the hands of God and waited. Out of consideration for Rose of Sharon and because he felt he could no longer serve the needs of the people, he had resigned earlier from the pastorate. Friends from Stoney Creek and relatives from Wayne County began to make plans to "bring him home, where he belongs." It was good to know so many people loved and missed him and Hattie Lou, but in his heart he felt he was "home." He truly loved the small country church, its quietness and its beauty. He had enjoyed every minute in the parsonage, and the people could not have been dearer to him if he had been born and bred here.

The trucks came to move their belongings back to their home in Wayne County, and for a year to the day Mr. Futrelle lived happily, though often filled with pain. Several times he returned to Rose of Sharon, once to baptize two young boys who requested that he do the honors. His strength during that service was a gift of the Holy Spirit.

No matter how hard Hattie Lou worked at keeping him well and comfortable, the disease progressed. Each day she struggled to push the lurking dark shadow away, always thankful each night that he was still there, warm and breathing, sharing in the cares of the day, laughing at her little jokes, still building good memories.

Their time together ended on March 22, 1990. The death angel made the long awaited visit to a room at Wayne Memorial Hospital. When he departed he took the spirit of the Foy Futrelle, man of God, gallant warrior in the King's army, loving husband, caring father and grandfather, gentle undershepherd to the sheep entrusted in his care for many years.

Foy Futrelle was laid to rest in Stoney Creek Cemetery, on the lawn of his home church Saturday, March 24, 1990. Fourteen men who were loyal friends joined ranks and quietly marched up the aisle of the church to stand watch during the eulogy, finally bearing the coffin of their friend and former leader to its final resting place.

The Christian flag was lifted from the coffin, folded and presented to Hattie Lou. A beautiful casket spray was placed where the flag had lain. In the center of the spray, a granddaughter had tucked a bird's nest—one of the wonders on nature discovered by "Preacher Foy" as he took one of his last walks. His friends from all over

(Continued on Page 32)

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
Route 2 Box 496
Goldsboro, NC 27534

The Christian Cadet Conference (sponsored by the League Convention) for 1990 will be held on June 25-30. We are looking for a great week of camp. Our goal this year is to have all our last year's campers return, as well as have a good number of new or first-time campers.

The cost of camp this year is \$105 per camper. That is the same as last year. Compared to other camps the Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont is a real bargain. Remember that transportation, towels, sheets, pillows, soap and all activities are included in our one price. The only out of pocket expense will be lunch Monday and Saturday, snacks and souvenirs, and group picture, if desired.

Get your application in as soon as possible. Do not be shut out due to high attendance! The age for campers is 9-19 YEARS.

To insure your place at camp, each camper must include with his/her application a \$30 deposit. This deposit will become non-refundable after June 1, 1990. (Transfers are allowable for new campers, but no refunds can be made after June 1.) The balance of \$75 will be due June 15. Medical forms and travel details will be sent in late May.

Camp staff for 1990 will be Gary M. Bailey and Ronnie V. Hobgood, co-directors; Kristie Bailey, Phillip Jordan, Glen and Jessie Mills, Arnie Jones, Miranda Bailey, Richard and Jodi Glosson, Joe Ard, Marla Hamm, Lisa Mizell, Wesley Beddard, Sherman Dilley, Ray Burke, Tammy Holmes, Gloria Langley, Glenda Hood, Pam Meadors, Susan Bailey, Richard Holmes, and Leon and Judy Harris.

For more information or if you have questions, please call or write to: Gary M. Bailey, director (address above), or phone (office, 735-3916; home, 734-0714).

Detach Here and Mail To

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
Route 2, Box 496
Goldsboro, NC 27534

Application for Camp - June 25-30, 1990

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Age _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____ School Grade Next Fall _____

Parents/Guardians _____

Address _____

Phone of above: Day _____ Night _____ Day _____ Night _____

Church _____ Minister _____

_____ \$30 Deposit Enclosed. \$75 Balance Due by June 1st.

Signature of Camper

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Called to Excellence



AN EXAMINATION OF TRUE FAITH

YFAers will soon be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1990 Youth-Frontier Conference. Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week is unique because it is the only youth encampment at Cragmont planned for just teenagers. This encampment always proves to be a time of fun and fellowship, a time of soul-searching and inspiration. This year's encampment is scheduled for July 2-7.

To make sure that you are among those attending YFA Week, please mail the application below soon! Send the application with a \$30 registration fee. Letters explaining what you need to carry to camp will be sent when your registration fee is received. The total cost of the week is \$125.

Checks should be made payable to Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week.

APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
City/Town _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Age _____ Sex _____
Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____
Church _____

Send application to: Scott and Janie Sowers,

Directors
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828



AFC CONFERENCE

July 9-14, 1990

Total Cost \$125 (includes activity fee for trip)

Send \$25 deposit along with registration to: Doug Skinner

804 East Cooper Street
Winterville, NC 28590
(919) 756-0520

Deposit non-refundable after June 30.

June 1990

It's Time For Action!

ATTENTION CAMPERS AND YOUTH LEADERS:

It's Time to Begin Planning for Summer Camp at Cragmont

Week: General Youth Conference

Date: July 23-28

Theme: "It's Time for Action!"

Cost: \$125 (includes transportation, lodging, food at Cragmont, group picture, activity fee, and admission fee to "Carowinds").

Registration: For ages eight to eighteen; \$25 deposit required by June 25.

Make checks payable to *General Youth Conference* and return with form below to:

Bryant Hines Jr., Registrar

Post Office Box 266

Cove City, NC 28523

For further information, call Bryant Hines at 638-3436 (work), 633-2683 (home); or David Hines, director, at 658-6948.

-----D-E-T-A-C-H—H-E-R-E-----

Name _____

Address _____

Age _____ Male _____ Female _____

Church Name _____ City _____

General Youth Conference

July 23-28, 1990

CAMP VANDEMERE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

THEME: "Being an Effective Christian"

SCRIPTURE TEXT: Ephesians 4:1-7.

Check-In: Monday, 10 a.m. [gates and doors will not open until 9 a.m.]

Check-Out: Friday 10 a.m.

The time for Christian camping will soon be here. We want to invite you to join us this summer during the **Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference**. Our theme for the week will be "Being an Effective Christian."

Each auxiliary is urged to elect a Woman of the Year from the auxiliary and to send her to camp. Each Woman of the Year will be honored during a special service on Monday evening. (Women of the Year not present at that time will be honored on whichever day they attend.) If your Woman of the Year cannot attend for any day, send in her letter of recognition and she will be recognized.

We hope you can come for the entire week. If not, we would like to have you as an overnight or day camper. Many of our working ladies find this more feasible for their schedule. We have an exciting program planned with Bible study, music, arts and crafts, denominational interests, and lots more. Our speakers will be discussing characteristics of an effective Christian in our society today. Come and join the fellowship of Christian camping.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Dudley,
Director/Registrar

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Church and Conference _____

Age _____ Phone _____

Day-Campers Only

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
B-L-D	B-L-D	B-L-D	B-L-D

PLEASE circle days you plan to attend and meals you desire. [Day-Camper fees are: Breakfast, \$2.50; lunch, \$3; dinner, \$3.50; and overnight \$5.]

Camp fees are \$55 for the week. Registration fee is \$10, with the balance due upon arrival. Send registration forms and fees to:

Mary M. Dudley

Route 1, Box 430

Deep Run, NC 28525

Telephone: (919) 568-3311

NOTE: Please call and let us know if you have a group coming in for the day, so we can prepare extra meals.

Thank you!

FUTRELLE

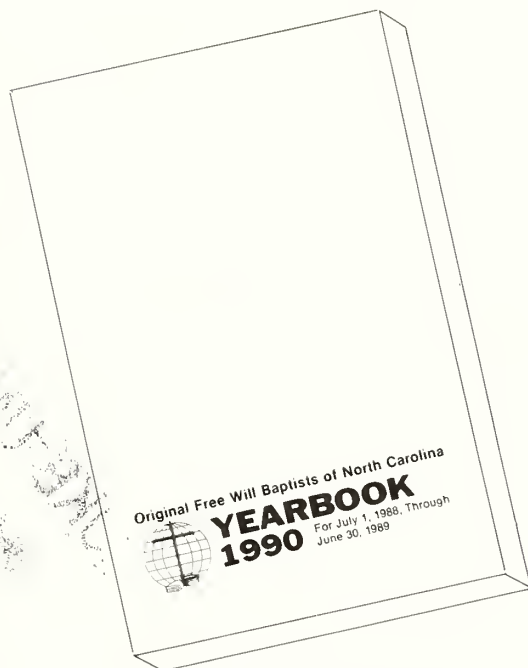
(Continued from Page 26)

the state were there to pay their last respects. Those he had loved in life had sung favorite songs at his funeral, prayers were said by relatives, and a sermon had been preached. The good-byes have all been said.

And he is now ultimately and truly "home where he belongs."

SPECIAL NOTE, WOMEN

Woman's Conference at Cragmont, scheduled for August 6-11, is filled. Vacancies still remain for the June 11-16 conference.



1990 Yearbooks

Available from Convention Headquarters
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513

JUNE IS CRAGMONT MONTH

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY PERIODICALS

DURHAM

NC 27706

1990 CAMP VANDEMERE SCHEDULE

For applications, contact the Director in charge of week desired. *ALL YOUTH CAMPS ARE FOR ALL AGES.*

JUNE 11-15

Allen Blount, Director
Box 334
Arapahoe, NC 28510
Phone 298-2526

JUNE 25-27

Woman's Week
Mrs. Mary Dudley, *Director*
Route 1, Box 430
Deep Run, NC 28525
Phone 658-3311

JULY 2-6

James Gurganus, Director
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570
Phone 223-5251

JULY 9-14

Eva Mae Clark, Director
465 Half Moon Road
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone 637-5346

JULY 16-20

Franklin Baggett, Director
Route 2, Box 100
Belhaven, NC 27810
Phone 964-4402

JULY 30-AUG. 3

Stanley Buck, Director
108 Hope Lodge Street
Tarboro, NC 27886
Phone 832-3964

AUGUST 10-12

"Just Say No" Retreat
Chris Singleton, *Director*
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518
Phone 298-5320

SEPT. 3-7

Senior Citizen Camp
The Rev. Melvin Everington, *Director*
Route 4, Box 306
Kinston, NC 28501
Phone 569-7671

For reservations for the camp, contact Ralph Sumner, Route 2, Box 332-D, Pink Hill, NC 28572; or phone, 298-5885.

FEES: \$50, plus \$5 activity fee per week; overnight \$5 per night; mobile campers: \$5 per site, no hookup; \$10 with hookups to water and electricity.

MEALS: Breakfast, \$2.50; Lunch \$3.00; Dinner \$3.50.

The Free Will Baptist

Divinity Library
Duke University
Durham, NC 27706



JULY 1990



Ed Meeks and Spencer Owens, King's Cross Roads Church, were among those who attended the 1990 State Youth Convention. See pages 7-10 for more pictures.

Happenings Throughout the Church	3
Children's Corner	19
Lessons Learned in the School of Life	20
Telling the Bible Story	22
Seven Ways to Help Your Pastor	26
National Survey Reveals Concerns of Pastors' Wives	28
Hear the Word of the Lord	30
Notes and Quotes	31
Why We Don't Witness	32

July 1990

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No. 7

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All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors: Darrell Horne, President; Carroll Hawkins, Vice President; Gaye Renfrow, Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Assistant Secretary; Carlee Stallard, Jack Thompson, W. S. Burns, Gary Burbage, Leon Harris; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

ANNIE RUTH HERRING CIRCLE ORGANIZED

Recently, ten young women met at the La Grange Church and formed a new Woman's Auxiliary Circle. The Woman's Auxiliary President, Mrs. "Pete" Vose, presided over the meeting. The members of the new circle decided to name their circle in honor of Mrs. Annie Ruth Herring.

Mrs. Herring has been a faithful worker for years, dedicating much of her time and energy to the youth of the church and community. She formed the "Sunbeams," especially for the "tiny tots" of the church, teaching them songs and Bible verses, and leading them in the way of the Lord. Those "tiny tots" now have little ones of their own and their precious memories of how "Miss Annie Ruth" affected their lives with her love of God moved them to show their appreciation in this way.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. Vicki Bannister, president; Mrs. Wanda Evans, treasurer; and Mrs. Bonnie Dail, program-prayer chairman.

Other members include Mrs. Jean Jackson, Mrs. Kim Hipkiss, Miss Kaye Jones, Mrs. Karen Roberson, Mrs. Terri Pridgen, Miss Kelley Hart and Miss Marian Kennedy.

The members of the Annie Ruth Herring Circle are pleased to join their sisters in the work of God. They ask for your prayers to guide and strengthen them in the days ahead.

MINISTERS' PICTURES NEEDED

Daniels Chapel Church is trying to locate pictures of the following ministers: W. M. Howell, B. P. Parkes, C. M. Johnson, and M. A. Woodard. Anyone having a picture of any of these persons is asked to send it to Philip Jackson,

Route 3, Box 659, Wilson, NC 27893; or contact him at night by phone at 243-5855.

He will get a copy of the picture made and return the original to the sender.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will not meet in July. The next meeting of the Fellowship will be Field Day which has been scheduled for August 4.

UNION TO MEET

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene with Powhatan Church, 2317 Powhatan Road, Clayton, on July 28. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn, Congregation
 - Devotions, the Rev. Jeffrey Hayes; alternate, Peyton Lee
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, Lee's Chapel Church
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
 - Recognition of Visitors
 - Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Report of Denominational Enterprises
 - Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
 - Offering and Offertory Prayer
 - Special Music, Host Church
 - Message, the Rev. Billy Nowell; alternate, the Rev. Don Venable
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
 - Report of Committees
 - Unfinished Business
 - Benediction and Adjournment

THIRD UNION OF EASTERN CONFERENCE TO MEET

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Smith's New Home Church on July 28, 1990, at 10 a.m.

All churches of the district are encouraged to represent by delegate if possible so the Union can better take care of God's business. Good fellowship and an excellent noon meal are promised.

FIRST WESTERN UNION MEETS WITH

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, KENLY

The First Union Meeting of the Western Conference will meet with St. Mary's Church, near Kenly, on Saturday, July 28, at 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Ray Wells will be preaching, with his alternate being the Rev. Bobby Futrell.

SENIOR CITIZEN HONORED

by Rose Bowen

The last senior citizen to be honored by the Adult Sunday School Class, Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, is Mrs. Ervin Buck. Her name is Vera but everyone calls her "Vee." She isn't the last honored because of her age (but the class went through the entire membership from the oldest to the youngest). Neither is she last because of her talents. "Vee" is one of the finest friends a person could have.

Before coming to Pleasant Hill, she was a member of Black Jack. She is one in a million, soft spoken, loving, and always carries a smile with love and care for everyone that she meets. She is married to Ervin Buck and they have two sons, Wayne and James Buck, and two granddaughters.

After coming to us in 1985, she has participated in all church services. She was one of the Mills girls before she married and true to family tradition, she is a wonderful cook. She prepares three meals a day, making her own biscuits, cornbread, old-time apple fritters, coconut cakes and you name it. She is a real personal friend to me and I have sat at her table for a regular meal when it looked like a banquet table. She shares all of her cooking skills with all the events that her church sponsors.

"Vee" worked with her husband
(Turn the Page)



Vee Buck

in farming until they retired. She is a real Christian lady who loves people, loves attending her church unless something is wrong. She is such a sweet, unassuming person but she sits on her pew for every service and she is really missed when she isn't there. She and I both ask for your prayers for her family that they may glorify God even more.

The last Sunday of May, she was honored with a lovely coffee hour for the entire Sunday School and also presented a beautiful red rose bouquet.

Note: The Adult Class of Pleasant Hill thanks our editor, Janie Sowers, for being so very nice on running our articles. Come on and send some articles into *The Free Will Baptist* so that all of us can get new ideas. We pray that you have enjoyed ours and maybe it will give you an idea. Janie is very cooperative and will do what she can to get articles in the paper for you. We love and appreciate you, Janie!—Rose Bowen

NEW BAPTISTRY FOR ROCKY MOUNT CHURCH

by Debbie Daughtridge

As many of you know by now, the First Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, has undergone many changes in the last year. We moved to our new location at 1825 Bethlehem Road

and a lot of work was done to complete our new church for use. We were all very excited about the work to be done and the work that was done. There was only one thing that made our new church seem incomplete. We had no baptistry.

Everyone made comments as to where the baptistry should go, but little else was done. We had decisions to make as to whether we wanted carpet first, a baptistry, handicap ramp, fellowship hall, or anything else that needed to be done. Well, the Lord took care of that decision for us. He led three young people to give their souls and lives over to Him. So the need for our baptistry came first above everything else. The money for the baptistry itself was donated by some people of the church. Three men took a day off of work to go and pick up the baptistry. Then many men took a lot of Saturdays to get the baptistry installed and ready for use.

The best way to dedicate a new baptistry is to use it! On March 18, 1990, Ron Crocker, Catherine Pierce, and Vicki Lancaster were the first to be baptized in our new baptistry. But the Lord kept right on blessing us. The same day a very special lady of our church, Mrs. Rachel Raynor, decided after many years to become an official member of our church. We have all felt that she was already a member of our family but now it is official!

But, that's not all! The Lord led Susan Daniels to Him that very next Sunday and we were ready to use our baptistry again. The Lord does lead us in all that we do. We were trying to decide what to do next and He decided for us.

If we leave all our decisions to the Lord, how much easier all our lives will be. He has certainly blessed our church many times over. We all feel very blessed.

HOWELL LEADS STUDY COURSE

The Woman's Auxiliary from First Church, Goldsboro, sponsored a study course on May 27, 1990, in the church library.

The speaker, Mrs. Sharlene Howell, presented the study course from one of Stuart Briscoe's writings, "How to Be a Motivated Christian."

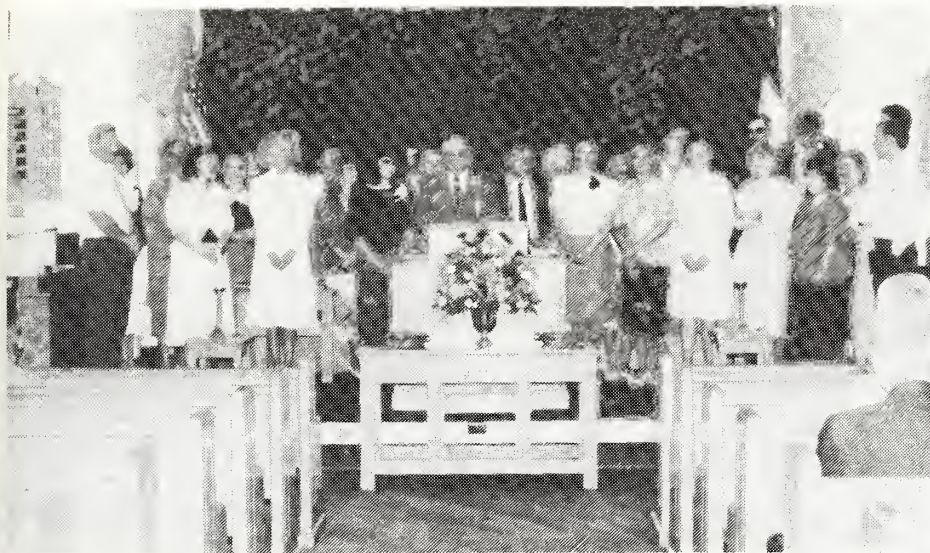
In the preface of the book, the author shares with the reader the many expressions Christians today use for not being enthused or zealous in their service to the Lord. "Burnout," "running out of gas," "I've had it up to here," whatever the terminology, there seems to be a lot of present-day Christians who have lost (or never had) enthusiasm for life in general and serving the Lord in particular. What's the problem? Motivation!

Mrs. Howell presented "How to Be a Motivated Christian" in nine ways:

- (1) Gratitude Attitude—realize man is a recipient of the grace of God.
- (2) Servant's Heart—ways one can develop, channel, apply a heart that wants to serve Jesus, and most of all what the results of serving Jesus are.
- (3) Sense of duty.
- (4) Sense of privilege.
- (5) Compassion—God's compassion toward Israel, Jesus' compassion toward man, generating compassion, compassion = sympathy + action.
- (6) Team spirit—generating team spirit, seeing what Christians have in common: God's work, the Lordship of Jesus, the Holy Spirit.
- (7) Fear of the Lord—realize God's judgment is real.
- (8) Perseverance.
- (9) Jesus' Love—recognizing Christ's love (and our need) and responding to Christ's love!

PASTOR AND TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

On May 6, Sandy Plain Church, of Route 2, Pink Hill, celebrated Pastor and Teacher Appreciation Day. During the Sunday School



opening assembly, each teacher received a corsage or boutonniere. Flowers were also presented to Pastor David Ricks and his wife Shirley. Superintendent Milton Kennedy then made remarks thanking the Sunday School staff members for their efforts.

Following the morning worship service, Pastor and Mrs. Ricks and their sons were called forward to receive cards, words of encouragement, and monetary gifts. A surprise dinner in honor of Pastor Ricks was held immediately following in the church's Education Building.



David and Shirley Ricks

"WORTHY IS THE LAMB"

The Crystal Coast Passion Play, "Worthy Is the Lamb," is a powerful and inspiring musical drama of the life of Christ that takes you on a pilgrimage back 2,000 years to the time of the Lord Jesus. This spectacular presentation is a sensitive, moving composition of art, word and music with insightful, scriptural reflections that reveal a compelling portrait of the life and times of Christ: His mission, His crucifixion and Resurrection, and His calling for those who love and follow Him today.

This world class outdoor drama, the only fully orchestrated musical passion play

in production, features period costumes, ships, horses, chariots, and all the pageantry of that long ago time.

This biblical story of how Jesus lived, laughed, loved and taught comes dramatically to life at the Crystal Coast Amphitheatre. Nestled at the edge of the Croatan National Forest overlooking the sparkling waters of the White Oak River, this 2,000-seat outdoor facility recreates the Sea of Galilee with ships and a seaside village. The natural outdoor beauty of the White Oak River provides a spectacular setting for this unforgettable drama.

The set has been carefully constructed to create a faithful,

lifelike replica of the city of Jerusalem. State-of-the-art technology in computer-coordinated sound, lighting and special effects provide consistently outstanding quality for every performance.

The play's soundtrack was recorded in London at Angel Studios and at one of England's historic cathedrals where the soundtracks for such movies as "Greystoke" and "Yentl" were also recorded. England's best symphony orchestra, top choral groups and finest Shakespearean actors were selected to perform this inspiring musical drama.

Bring your family and friends and share this passionate journey through the life of Christ, expressed through story and song by a cast of talented performers. Join us for an unforgettable evening of entertainment.

The Crystal Coast Amphitheatre, home to "Worthy is the Lamb," is located on North Carolina's beautiful Crystal Coast. Nearby sparkling beaches such as Emerald Isle are a popular family vacation spot.

The wide unspoiled beaches and crystal clear warm waters of the Atlantic are the setting for this vacation wonderland. The coast offers a multitude of leisure activities, such as swimming, sailing, boating, fishing, shopping, golf and tennis.

The Crystal Coast has fine accommodations available at family prices. And the delicious fresh seafood served at local restaurants is some of the best to be found.

The Crystal Coast Amphitheatre is located three miles north of the Emerald Isle Bridge off Highway 58. It is easily accessible from I-95 by Highway 70 or Highway 58.

The production runs on Tuesdays through Saturdays, June 15-September 1, with performances beginning at 8:30 p.m.

(Turn the Page)

The costs are as follows: children 6 and under, free; 7-12, \$6; adults, \$10; senior citizens, \$8. Military and group rates are available (excluding senior citizens). Telephone reservations may be made by calling: 1/800-662-5960 or 919/393-8373.

The members of Sidney Church cordially invite you to participate in the Centennial Celebration of their founding.

The celebration will begin with a reception on Saturday, August 25, 1990, from 5-7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

The celebration will continue on Sunday, August 26, beginning with Sunday School at 10 a.m. The morning worship service will begin at 11, with dinner on the grounds at 12. A memorial service and singspiration will follow outside.

Please plan to be a part of this wonderful celebration in the Lord.



SIDNEY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH TIME LINE

Date	Event
August 26, 1890	One-half acre of land is purchased for church site at a cost of one dollar.
October 24, 1891	Jack's Creek Chapel is dedicated. J. W. Linton serves as pastor for twenty-four years.
January 5, 1907	Jack's Creek Chapel changes name to Sidney. The church meets once a month.
September 27, 1924	Sidney joins the Albemarle Union Meetings. B. J. Cash is elected pastor for another year and his salary is raised to twenty dollars per visit.
September 2, 1939	Sidney elects Elder Herman Wooten as pastor. New Sunday School classrooms are built.
1952	Sidney purchases more land adjoining present property at a cost of ten dollars. A new sanctuary is built. Ralph Osborne is pastor.
1956	Sidney purchases a church bus. Sunday School attendance increases. Mr. Osborne proposes Lord's Acre Harvest project.
1959	Sidney builds more Sunday School classrooms. Youth Sunday is introduced. The YFA is established. Daniel Gaskins is the pastor.
1962	Sidney elects to be part of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists.
1968	Sidney pledges \$500 per year for the next three years to Mount Olive College.
March 20, 1969	Sidney elects James N. Webster as their first full-time pastor. Church fellowship hall project begins.
August 17, 1973	Supply pastor Henry Hagens dies from heart attack while serving at Sidney.
January 1974	J. D. Vernelson returns to Sidney as pastor. Previously he pastored here 1943-46. The parsonage project begins.
September 1976	Charles Parrish is elected as pastor. The Parrish family is the first to live in the newly completed parsonage.
July 1979	Steve Hargrove pastors at Sidney.
March 1982	Robert Burke serves as supply pastor.
November 1982	Charles Parrish returns to Sidney as pastor.
October 1987	Raymond Lagcher serves as supply pastor. Tape ministry and van ministry begin.
February 1988	Sidney starts Youth Church ministry. Don Jones serves as the director.
July 1988	Franklin Baggett begins his ministry as pastor of Sidney Church.
August 1989	Sidney initiates a new building project that will add more Sunday School classrooms, bathrooms, and facilities for a growing Youth Church.
April 4, 1990	Trey Baggett is born. The proud parents are Frankie and Debra Baggett.
August 26, 1990	Sidney Church celebrates 100 years of ministry. Homecoming is observed. The newly completed building project is dedicated.

YOUTH CONVENTION UPDATE

The 1990 State Youth Convention was held May 18-20. Highlights are given for you on the next few pages.



Both Bible Bowl teams from Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee Association captured first place. Members of the YFA team are seen talking here with Mrs. Dianne Riley.



Tina Allen, Hickory Grove Church, Bethel



Becky Howell, Riverside Church, convention president, leads proceedings.



The Rev. and Mrs. Frankie Baggett watch convention activities. Frankie was the speaker for the Sunday morning worship service.



Joanne Edwards, Oak Grove, Pee Dee Association, first place AFC Art and Crafts winner.



Jamie Burgess, AFC Public Speaking winner.



Mr. Cliff Gray and Kelly Britton, YFA Public Speaking winner.



AFC Christian Writing honors were won by J. D. Wade, Elm Grove Church.



Outgoing officers (from left to right): Jennifer Barefoot, recording secretary; Valerie Penny, corresponding secretary; Loretta Morris, treasurer; and Becky Howell, president. Mark Lanier, vice president, is not pictured.



The Cherub Talent Competition was won by Free Union Cherubs. The Rev. Bobby Taylor is shown here presenting the trophy.



Carol Surles, Shady Grove Church, took first place in the YFA Art and Crafts Competition with a quilt.



Loretta Morris, convention treasurer, is shown presenting a check to the Rev. Harold Jones for a vehicle for Willem and Lydia van der Plas.



King's Cross Roads AFC members present their "Merry Heart" medley.



Doug Berky, left, talks with the Rev. John Williams. Doug presented the Saturday evening program, challenging all in attendance.

WINNERS OF 1990 COMPETITIONS

Talent

- Cherubs:** 1—Free Union Cherubs, Free Union (Central)
 2—Noah Kriger, Fremont
 3—Martin Jernigan, Lee's Chapel
- AFC:** 1—King's Cross Roads AFC, King's Cross Roads
 2—Courtney Ledbetter, Tee's Chapel
 3—Sandy Plain AFC, Sandy Plain
- YFA:** 1—Eric Sullivan, Wilson
 2—Christy Brewington, Pleasant Grove
 3—Duwyann Ward, Cypress Creek

Art and Crafts

- Cherubs:** 1—Lindsay Hawkins, Deep Run
 2—Rachel Radford, Tarboro
 3—Melissa Jones, Mt. Tabor
- AFC:** 1—Joanne Edwards, Oak Grove (Pee Dee)
 2—Heidi Long, Genesis
 3—Deadra Matthews, Genesis
- YFA:** 1—Carol Surles, Shady Grove
 2—Stacey Burgess, Hickory Grove
 3—Tracy Taylor, Crab Point

Bible Bowl

- AFC:** 1—Beaverdam
 2—Black Jack Grove
 3—Tarboro
- YFA:** 1—Beaverdam
 2—Tarboro
 3—Kenly

Christian Writing

- AFC:** 1—J. D. Wade, Elm Grove
 2—Joe Slaughter, Hickory Grove
 3—Joel Kennedy, Sandy Plain
- YFA:** 1—Renee Crawford, Marlboro
 2—Kimberly Shepard, Verona
 3—Angela Foreman, Shiloh

Lesson Presentation

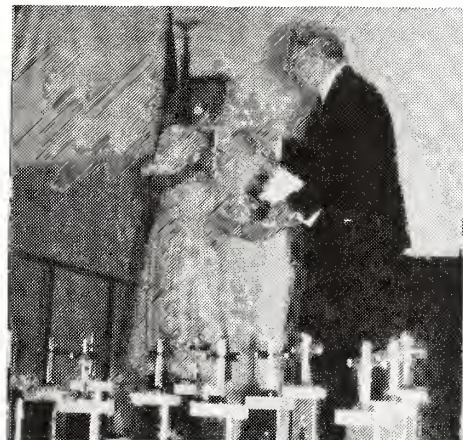
- AFC:** 1—Kelly King, Westside
 2—Rebecca Barnes, Little Rock
 3—Kim Garner, Marlboro
- YFA:** 1—Leslie Wainwright, Bethany
 2—Stacey Burgess, Hickory Chapel

Public Speaking

- AFC:** Jamie Burgess, Hickory Chapel
- YFA:** 1—Kelly Britton, Hickory Chapel
 2—Wendy Barnes, Marlboro



Samuel Jones, King's Cross Roads Church, winner of the 1989 Cherub Talent Competition, sings "Worn Out."



Kelly King, Westside, won the AFC Lesson Presentation competition. She is seen here with the Rev. David C. Hansley.



Chris Dwiggins, Haymount Church, talks with Cliff Gray, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation.



New officers were elected at the convention. They are shown here with Becky Howell (far left) during the installation service. New officers are (left to right) Aaron Bryan, treasurer; Wendy Barnes, outreach corresponding secretary; Diane Hudson, recording secretary; Ken Jackson, vice president; and Valerie Penny, president.



Eric Sullivan, Wilson, prepares for the YFA Talent Competition.



Noah Kriger, Fremont Church, awaits his music.

I AM OVERWHELMED

by Dr. E. M. Lall

I am overwhelmed receiving the TOT, "the PLAQUE," through His inspiration from the Board of Foreign Missions, North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, which reads as follows:

Presented to Dr. E. M. Lall, Founder and Moderator of the Free Will Baptist Church of India, in appreciation for the outstanding work he has done in leading the church to tremendous growth and national recognition 1975-1990.

What little I know, the people of the United States of America dominate the entire world with the eternal wisdom of God. And to be rewarded with such a title is not an ordinary affair, but is of great significance in my life. I owe my heartiest gratitude to all. As I say this, I have tears rolling down my face in utmost gratefulness to my Lord, who transformed my life to this worth of which I could hardly imagine, being a most ordinary man in His divine love, a scrap or fragment of the wilderness and of lesser privileges. It thrills my heart as I was never so rewarded.

I have never been alone in my spontaneous ministry (in my country of teeming millions) since 1973. The Lord has always been with me, as in Matthew 28:20. I also cannot resist exposing the mystery of my success in His vineyard: It is in the person known as the Rev. Harold Jones, director-treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, filled in divine inspiration to save the perishing souls through missions and expanding His kingdom on earth. Our churches in U.S.A. are second to none in responding to His call, and thus exercise the will of God.

"O God, give me grace to hold my desires in restraint until thou art ready to disclose thy purposes. Forbid that any ambition for place, recognition or honor should mar my growth in Christlikeness.

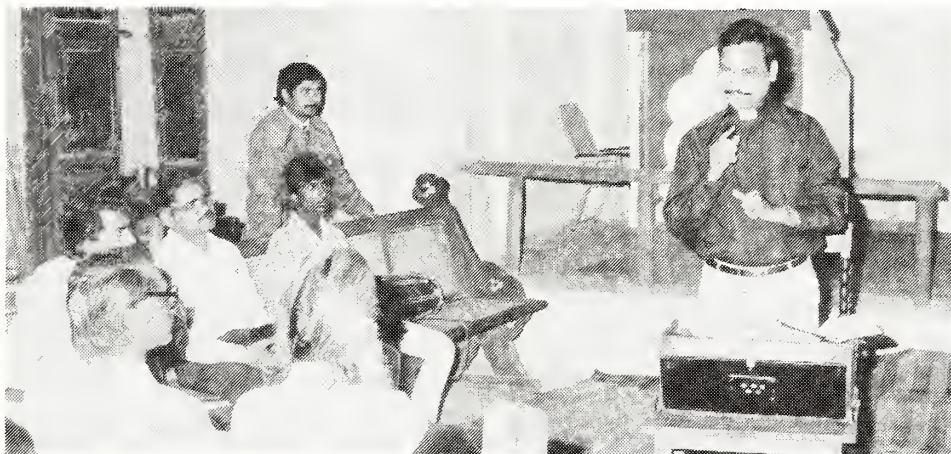


Dr. E. M. Lall

May the chief desire be to produce, even though it may be imperfectly, the loveliness of His character."

With this prayer, I leave myself to the holy will of our Lord and to the sincere desire of my people called the Free Will Baptists.

Praise ye the Lord!



The Rev. J. B. Shepard, of the Church of North Inida, teaching in the seminar. (Mr. Shepard was very instrumental in helping us acquire the church building in Bareilly.)



Participants in the seminar.

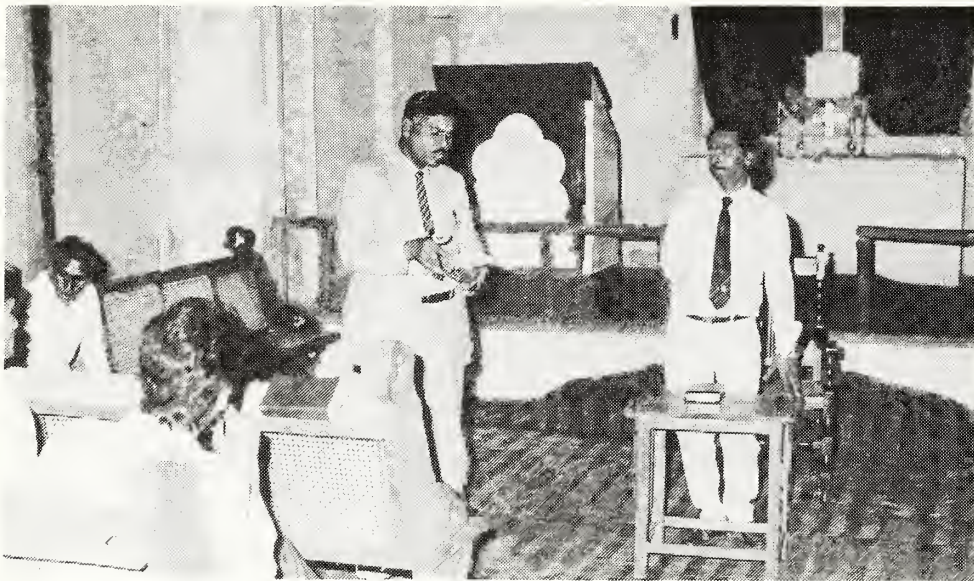
A UNIQUE BIBLE TRAINING PROGRAM

by Dr. E. M. Lall

The Bible training program has become a part of our church organization. We have it twice a year with the help of our Board of Missions. Adequate benefit is visible in the day-to-day life of our preachers. As you know, our ministers and deacons do not come through the Bible schools but possess a biblical background on the basis of which they are ordained in their circuits. Yet they need to be well equipped with Christian theology to confront the difficult situations in their ministry.

This program has immensely helped our preachers to be effective in their ministry. According to our schedule, we held the training program at Christ Church from March 16 to 20, wherein 47 ministers, deacons and lay-preachers fully participated

(Turn the Page)



Dr. Prilain Singh teaching at the seminar (left). The Rev. William Samuel, pastor of the Christ Free Will Baptist Church of Bareilly, is on the right.

under the able leadership of the Rev. Philip Masih, formerly professor at Delhi Bible College; the Rev. B. R. K. Lal, professor of Bareilly Theological College; professor J. B. Singh, a renowned theologian in Northern India; and the Rev. J. B. Shepard, of the church of North India.

The main objectives of the program at this time were:

1. To establish participants in their faith and in the foundational truths of the gospel.
2. To study the principles of Christian growth and the development of Christian character.
3. To equip them for more effective witness and service for Christ.
4. To lay foundations for continued, advanced Bible study.

It was remarkable that all those who were in the training program have a personal experience of the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

The emphasis during the courses is on the overall spiritual development of the participants creating in them a sense of discipline. Great attention is paid to the spiritual growth in the life of the trainees. They are encouraged in every way and given fellowship through church meetings, prayer meetings and daily devotions. They are also exposed to the practical aspects of

evangelism by participation in gospel outreach and tract distribution every evening.

We had a special time for active participation of each one of those who attended the program to check their talent so as to make use of them according to the future needs of the church. Certificates were given to those who had successfully completed the training program.

Our thanks are due to our Board of Foreign Missions who helped us in this program, which is very beneficial to our preachers in their ministry. It is evident from the rapid growth of our church that well-to-do people of other faiths are coming in the fold of our Lord Jesus Christ.



SOUTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

by Dutch Manzano

The Second South District Conference was held at the Plaridel Free Will Baptist Outreach, Aborlan, Palawan, February 27-28, 1990, with 42 participants coming from churches, mission churches and outreaches. Topics discussed included the following: Commitment to Serve, Building Good Relationships, Leadership, OIA Method of Bible Study (Observation, Interpretation, Application), and messages intended to courage and inspire.

In addition to lectures and workshops, participants enjoyed warm fellowship, prayer time, good food, and singing. Speakers and lecturers were the Revs. Pio dela Rosa, Jaapal Ontong, Dario Basingil, and me, Dutch Manzano. The theme of the Conference was "Christ, the Center of Progress" (Philippians 1:5-7).

We have elected new officers that would serve the conference for two years. The newly elected officers were:

President	Eder Peralta
Vice Pres.	Jonna Magarce
Secretary	Lilibeth Dancil
Treasurer	Lilia Ontong
Auditor	Respecio de Jesus
C.R.O.	Rosie Aquino

They were elected in accordance with the qualification Policy of the District. Their



**MRS. REBECCA DAVENPORT
NORTH CAROLINA
CHILD CARE ASSOCIATION
TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR**



The Rev. Bobby Taylor (left), executive director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, is seen here with Mrs. Rebecca Davenport as Rufus H. Shark II, president of the North Carolina Child Care Association, recognizes her for her work in the field of child care.

Mrs. Rebecca E. Davenport of Winterville, North Carolina, and a member of Reedy Branch Church, was honored as Trustee of the Year at the annual North Carolina Child Care Association program meeting in Asheboro. Rufus H. Shark II, president of the Association, presented the award in May. The Trustee of the Year must be serving a NCCCA member agency and have rendered extra-ordinary service in their volunteer capacity.

Mrs. Davenport has served for over 19 years on the board of directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. During these years of service she has served four years as vice president and seven years as president of the board.

Bobby R. Taylor, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, said, "Mrs. Davenport always displays a commitment to children and children's rights. She has provided leadership with a vision for excellence. She believes all children have a right to be loved and a right to grow up in a caring and nurturing environment."



induction was March 29, 1990, during our 11th National Convention.

On the last evening, the Rev. Jaapal Ontong challenged the participants through his message of God, regarding salvation and repentance of the lost people. But that was after the competition portion of the program which the participants were divided into groups. It is nice to say that all of them enthusiastically par-

ticipated in all activities. And I would say that they enjoyed the conference, because I am sure they were blessed.

All glory and honor were addressed to our living Lord, Jesus Christ, for His unfailing love and care during the two-day seminar. As it says in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."



FOUNDER'S DAY

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home celebrated 70 years of providing Christian child care on May 12, 1990. Approximately 375 people were present and experienced the occasion.

The Little Rock Teen Choir began the service with music and their pastor, the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, delivered the Founder's Day message. The message, "Results of Vision," began with the vision of Free Will Baptists in 1914 of a home for orphans. The vision has continued during the last 70 years, even though changes have been made (including changing the name to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in 1956).

The vision of child care by Free Will Baptists must continue. The need for Christian child care has never been greater. Our children are our future. Mr. Eakes said,



"Children in church do not bother me. If there were no children in my church, that would bother me."

Mr. Eakes stressed that every time a child enters the Children's Home, we put our arms around him and become the arms of Jesus on earth, just as He did in Mark 10:16.

Bobby R. Taylor, executive director, concluded the day by sharing that everyone present, all Free Will Baptists, and all friends of the Children's Home, can have a part in the vision for child care ministry. Your prayers and financial gifts make it possible for us to meet the challenges we will face in the future. Through participating in the "Friends of Children" program, memorial gifts, remembering the Children's Home in your will and establishing endowments, you continue the vision of Christian child care.

For more information on how you can help continue this vision, contact the Children's Home at (919) 235-2161.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

HILLSIDE SPONSORS DINNER

The members of Hillside Mission/Church, Grifton, annually sponsor a bar-be-cued chicken dinner. All the proceeds go for the church building and improvement fund. Shown here are scenes from Hillside's recent dinner.

The Rev. James Sowers serves as pastor of the mission/church. (Please remember James and his family in your prayers: his father, the Rev. Wesley Sowers, went to be with the Lord in May.)

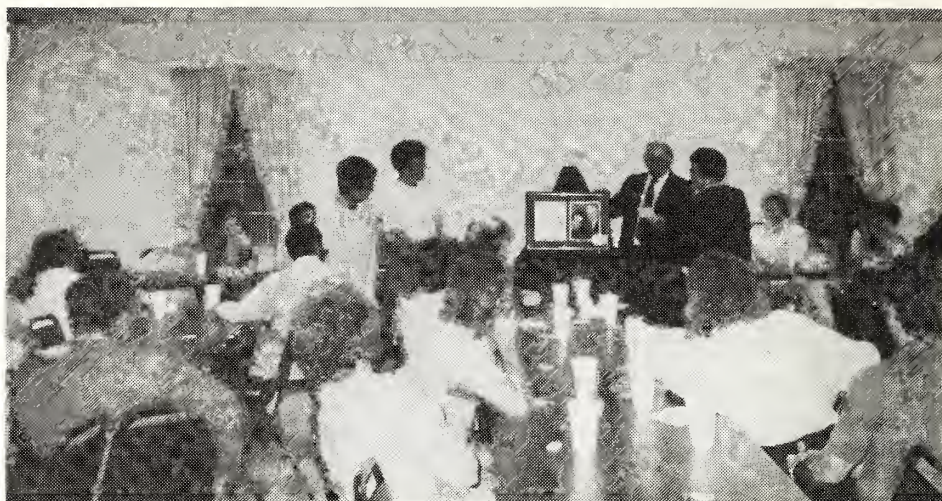


APPRECIATION EXPRESSED

The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism recently hosted an appreciation dinner for mission pastor-directors, their families, and special friends of the ministry.

The Revs. James Evans and Bruce Barrow were recognized for their past work with the Board. These two ministers helped to establish more than 30 churches.





Announcements about the Brown Endowment were made at the dinner. The Rev. Noah Brown was working with the ministry of home missions and evangelism at the time of his death. A fifty-year veteran of the gospel ministry, the endowment was begun in recognition of his (and Mrs. Brown's) accomplishments about the time of Mr. Brown's death.

Shown here are family members and the Rev. David C. Hansley. Mrs. Brown stands to Mr. Hansley's right.



The Rev. Ray Wells, chairman of the Board, has served on the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism for seventeen years. He has chaired the body for thirteen of those years. At the dinner, Mr. Wells (left) was recognized for his leadership and was presented a gold watch. The Rev. Dean Kennedy made the presentation.



The Civil Air Patrol of Johnston County was present for the evening and presented arms. They also expressed their gratitude to the Board for its gift to the Civil Air Patrol. The Board gave the trailer once used at Princeton in its mission work to the group for use as a classroom.



Mrs. Treva Kennedy was recognized for her work. Treva has faithfully labored during the last seventeen years. She fulfills bookkeeping, many secretarial responsibilities, and other roles in the ministry's work.

The Rev. Dale Albertson is shown here presenting Treva with flowers.



The Rev. Al Markuson (right) was the first missionary to serve with the Board. He continues to pastor, working with Genesis Mission in Fayetteville.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

PAYMENT NEWS

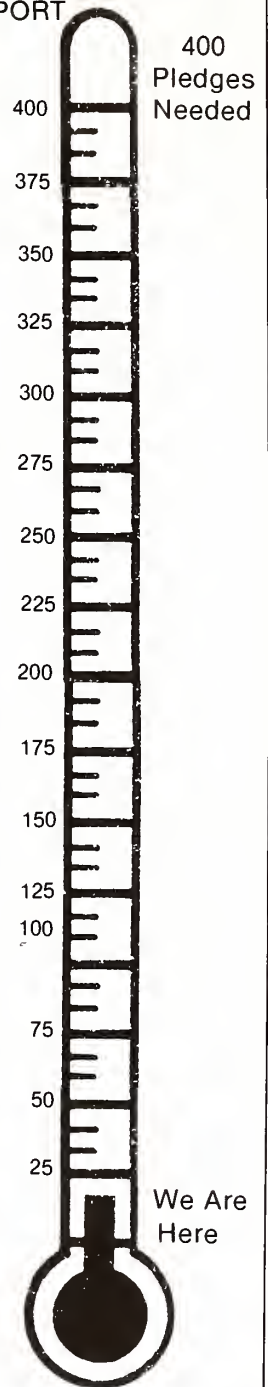
As Free Will Baptists, we believe that our Lord has commissioned us as a denomination to present the gospel to the world. As a denomination, Free Will Baptists have chosen several ways to do this at a denominational level. One can see this through the ministries of Church Finance Association, Cragmont Assembly, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Mount Olive College, Foreign Missions, Ministers' Program, and Home Missions. Each ministry has its own special way of presenting the gospel to the world.

Several years ago, a trend toward developing fund drives that would appeal to individuals was begun by denominational ministries mostly because of a decline in giving on the part of our churches. I believe that when churches call themselves "Free Will Baptists," they have committed themselves to support the ministries of the denomination. As part of our covenant, we have pledged ourselves to this task. Our ministries cannot exist without the support of the churches and individuals who make up the denomination.

Cragmont has launched a new fund drive this year directed at churches, auxiliaries, Sunday School classes, youth groups and individuals. Our goal is to retire the Cragmont debt by 1995, our "Year of Jubilee." We are encouraged by the initial response to this plan. However, we must emphasize that participation in the Jubilee Fund Drive must be over and above what your church, organization, or you as an individual are already contributing to Cragmont in order that the goal of retiring the debt be accomplished. The purpose of the Jubilee fund is to reduce the principle as enough funds become available. However, there will still be an annual payment to be made December 31, 1990. With half the year already passed, we have barely received enough funds to operate, and we have not been able to put any money aside for our annual payment. The purpose of this article is to remind you of this annual payment and let you know we are in need of funds for it.

We have formed a Jubilee Team made up of Cragmont friends who are interested in going into our churches for the purpose of sharing Cragmont and its ministry. Since I am limited in the amount of time I have for promotional work, I would like to recommend one of our team members to visit your church, show slides and share printed materials with your church. All ministries have their own special way of presenting the gospel. We are but an arm of the local church. When you support these ministries, you spread the gospel in a way you cannot do alone.

PLEDGE
SUPPORT



In order for Cragmont to be debt-free in 1995, approximately \$400,000 needs to be raised. Cragmont is looking for 400 supporters who will pledge \$1,000 each for this goal. Will you help?

For more information, contact Cragmont by phoning (704) 669-7677.

JUNE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

The theme for the June 11-16, 1990 Cragmont Woman's Conference was "You Are Special." Those on the program were: Rachel Kirby, Eva Lancaster, Becky Jo Sumner, Barbara Hardee, Nina Grace Register, Sandra Jones and the Rev. Harold Jones.

Dola Dudley and Becky Jo Sumner were co-directors; registrar, Alice Barrow; pianist was Geraldine Summerlin, organist was Nina Grace Register; music director was Alma Dale; nurse was Frances Phillips. There were 41 registered for the week and other visitors came in for services.



A TIME OF CELEBRATION

by Lynette Sumerlin

Just as we celebrate our country's freedom in July with picnics, cookouts, and fireworks, the Israelites celebrated their freedom from bondage in Egypt with the Feast of the Passover. This feast came about as a result of the last plague that God sent upon the Egyptians. Time after time Moses asked Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, to let the Israelites leave Egypt, but Pharaoh refused to let them go. Each time, God sent a plague upon the Egyptians to show them His power. What were these ten plagues? Unscramble the words below to find out.

1. HTE TWARE NI ETH VREIR SAW HDNCAEG OT LOODB.

2. GROSF

3. EICL

4. SLEIF

5. ETH TACLET FO EHT YGEPSTAIN DDEI.

6. OLBIS

7. AIHL

8. CLUSOTS

9. RDKSSENA RVOE HET DNLA

10. HEDTA FO HET RRINOSTBF FO ETH YGSPTENAI

For help see Exodus 7-11.

The following writing won first place in the 1990-91 YFA Christian Writing Competition.

LESSONS LEARNED IN THE SCHOOL OF LIFE

*Renee Crawford
Marlboro Church*

Well, it's almost over. In about three short months, my senior year in high school will come to a close. I am at the end of a long journey, one that started twelve years ago when I walked into Mrs. Evans' first grade class on my first day of school. I was six years old then and knew very little. My knowledge was shallow, not just in reading, writing and arithmetic, but in the ways of the world. I had a lot to learn, but I had years and years to find out how to read, add and subtract, write my name, survive in the world, right? Now that I'm seventeen, I realize that it was not much time at all. Of course, I learned the basics; but it is the last subject I need more time to master because in school courses in survival are not offered. Instead, I will glean bits of truth from daily experiences throughout life.

My lessons on life started in the first grade when I can remember saying for the first time, "Life's not fair!" Little did I know at the time that this would be something that I would say many times in the future. This assessment came about over the subject of recess at school. The first graders were required to play on a separate playground than the second and third graders. This would not have been so bad ex-

cept for the fact that the area where I could play was a small dirt one with only two sets of monkey bars, while the playground for the second and third graders was twice as large. In my eyes that other playground was the biggest, the best one, in the whole wide world. It had green grass and flowers, many sets of monkey bars, and best of all, a balance beam. No matter how much I wanted to or begged to, I was still not allowed to play on that playground. I would have to wait until I was older (another cliché that would resound many times in my life). This was very frustrating indeed; but the next year I was able to play on that "wonderful" playground. It was everything I had hoped it would be. For the time being, life was fair again. I did not know it then, however, that I had learned something very valuable. It is true that life is not always fair and things will not always go the way we would like for them to; but when they do not, it is not the end of the world.

Another "first" I remember was my initial taste of independence. This was in the fourth grade when I went on a weekend trip with my class at school to Williamsburg, Virginia. This was the first trip I took



without my parents along to look after me. I had been to spend the night with a friend before but this was different. Mom could not be there to get me in five minutes. I was hours away. While this was scary for me, I realized that my parents probably were not at ease either. Well, the world did not gobble me up that weekend. I returned home safe and better for the experience. I learned that my parents are not always going to be able to hold my hand and help me along, but I can face life and its challenges using the values they have instilled in me.

One of my most frightening lessons came in the sixth grade. That was the year that one of my friends, Zeke Cobb, died. Death stared me in the face. It was not that this was the first time that someone I knew had died; my grandfather had passed away when I was in the fourth grade. The thing that scared me was that Zeke and I were the same age. He was my classmate, someone I had played with, talked to, laughed with. My whole concept of death changed. I realized that young people die, too. I learned that tomorrow might not come. Zeke wanted to be an astronaut when he grew up. I realize that I am fortunate to have made it to my senior year and that each day is precious. My new outlook on life—and death—was one of the things that set the stage for the next big event in my life.

The summer after my seventh grade year is one I'll never forget. That was the summer my life took a new direction. It happened during YFA Week at Cragmont and things have not been the same for me since. That was when I accepted Christ as my Saviour. I remember kneeling at the altar and telling my counselor what I wanted to do. We prayed together and it was as if a light went on inside of me. I told her that I felt as if a burden had been lifted off of me. She explained that it had. The burden of sin was taken from me and I wanted to run and shout for joy. I had a new energy because I knew that eternal salvation was mine and that I would never be alone again. Christ would always be with me and love me.

My high school years have been the time when I have learned the most. I thank the Lord that He has been with me the whole way and that He has given me a strong church family, as well as my parents and sister, to help me along. One of the most important things that I have learned is to stick to my convictions. Many times it may seem to be the right thing to do to go along with the crowd or deviate from what is right. I have found out that you must do what you know in your heart is right no matter what others may think. You must be true to yourself; but if you mess up, God will forgive you and lead you back in the right direction.

Another important truth I have learned during the last four years is that I am not just an insignificant teenager. I matter and the things that I do mat-

ter to other people. This is proven to me each week when I teach dancing to preschool children. They look up to me and depend on me. I know that I make a difference in their lives. Another experience that has taught me that I make a difference in the world has been going on two mission project trips with my church. By helping others I have learned that even the smallest of acts can make an impact on someone else's life. Also, I have found that by helping others my faith is strengthened.

A couple of weeks ago I was paid the highest compliment I think that I could ever receive. That was when I really learned that my life influences others. One of my teachers told me a fellow teacher had spoken highly of me. She went on to explain that the other teacher had said that she really liked Renee Crawford and that she had never believed that involvement in a church youth group could make such a big difference in a person's life until she met Renee. Hearing this, especially knowing that it came from a teacher for whom I have a great deal of respect, reminds me that others see Christ through me and that I can spread my faith through my everyday actions.

Now that my childhood years are almost over and I am about to enter the adult world, I have to ask myself, "Am I ready for what the future holds?" I believe that I am. I may not have learned everything about how to survive in the world, but I am not supposed to know everything. There are many lessons yet to be learned, but what I already know will help to guide me through the rough times. I know that I will stumble along the way, and sometimes I will fall flat on my face. But I know that I can get up and keep going. With God, my family, and my friends on my side, I cannot lose! "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

Lessons learned in the school of life can be costly. The tuition one pays varies because each individual determines that cost by how quickly he learns and how carefully he handles the courses. This university majors in continuing education, some courses running for a lifetime. As I approach a new level of my own educational challenges, I will hold fast to the instructions found in Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Editor's Note: Renee is a 1990 honor graduate of Farmville Central High School. She plans to enter East Carolina University in the fall in the field of nursing.

Renee is a joy and a true inspiration to many. And I count it a real privilege to know her.

Renee, thanks for the memories. Thanks for being my friend.—Janie



TELLING THE BIBLE STORY

(Sharing the Old Story in New Ways)

by Bass Mitchell

Mary opened her teacher's book and exclaimed, "Oh no! Not again! We just studied that Bible story! My class already knows it better than I do! How can I possibly present it in a new and meaningful way?"

I have seen it happen many times. Hardly before the teacher has said, "Our lesson today is on Noah . . ." the class has tuned her out! They think they already know it.

Ever found yourself in that situation? It can be quite a problem. How can we tell the "old" Bible stories in new ways? Here are some things to keep in mind and some practical suggestions for telling well-known Bible stories.

Don't jump to the conclusion that all your students are masters of the biblical story. You just might be shocked if you gave them a Bible literacy test. Despite the fact that the Bible is still a best-seller, many Christians still do not read it on a regular basis. Some do not even read the Sunday School lesson!

Keep in mind that persons need to know what's in the Bible. One of the basic objectives of any sound Christian education program is to give persons a basic knowledge of the stories in the Bible. Such knowledge provides a solid foundation for all other educational objectives.

Don't underestimate the power of biblical stories. The fact that they have been told so many times testifies to their continuing power to inspire, guide, challenge, transform and teach.

Look to your curriculum materials for suggestions. Good resources will provide you with more creative ways to tell the Bible story than you can possibly use!

Here's another point. It's important to start lesson preparation as far ahead of time as possible. Once you get your materials, look over them right away to get an idea of what stories will be coming up. List them on a separate piece of paper, if you wish. This will give you time to think of creative ways to present them. If you do not look at the lesson until a few days before you are to teach it, you limit the creative time you have to work on it.

Also, you have to be willing to do something dif-

ferent: to take a chance; to try something new. Most classes appreciate it when the teacher tries new approaches. Here are some that other teachers have used effectively.

The Art of Storytelling

Sharpen your storytelling skills. Study how Jesus told stories. He was a master storyteller.

Read some books on storytelling. There's a list of suggested ones at the end of this article.

Sometimes the best way to tell a Bible story is to tell it! Know it so well that you can tell it in as dramatic a fashion as you can. That can be more effective than you think.

Are there persons in your church who have the gift of storytelling? Some persons just have a gift for making even the most well-known Bible story come alive. Some parents are good at it. Use them in your teaching.

If you are teaching young children, it helps to have a certain place and routine for storytelling. One teacher has the children sit on carpet squares around her on the floor as she reads a Bible story. My three-year-old daughter looks forward to story time and always has to retell us the story she heard in Sunday School.

Reading the Story

You need to read the story several times as part of your preparation. Even read it out loud.

Use voice inflections like speaking faster to express excitement or louder to express anger.

You can read the story in one translation and then have someone prepared to read it in another.

Is there someone in your class who reads especially well? Use that person. Some churches still make use of readers in worship services. Why not have readers in your class?

Sometimes it's good to let the children read the story. If it's a short one, let them read it out loud together. You can let the children take turns reading various parts of the story until it's finished. You can even have one child read the story. If you do, give him or her a week's notice.



Cassettes and Storybooks

A good way to tell Bible stories to preschoolers and early elementary age children is using your cassette recorder.

My son has a collection of Bible storybooks and cassettes. He loves them! He listens to them all the time.

The good news is that those kinds of resources on Bible stories are readily available. They are inexpensive and can be used over and over again.

The entire Bible is on cassette tapes. Some even have sound effects. For example, when the lesson was on the creation story, I used such a cassette. The sound effects with the dialogue made that story refreshingly new. It was almost as if we were there witnessing it all!

Here's another idea. Got a lesson coming up with some dialogue in it? Get a group of volunteers from the class to go to a separate room and make a tape of the story. You'll need to have a basic script for them to read. Others can provide the sound effects.

I did this once with the senior high class. We were studying the parable of the prodigal son. One was the father. Another was the wayward son. Someone else was the son who stayed home. Most wanted to be the wild friends of the prodigal. Others did the sound effects—right down to the pigs and the fatted calf! They made the tape and played it for the class. Then we got into the message of that story.

There are storybooks available on just about every story in the Bible. Some have pop-up figures and various activities for the children. Colorful scenes and characters make the stories come alive for the children. See the information at the end of the article on how to get some of these resources.

Drama

The stories in the Bible have characters. Why not let those characters come to visit your class and tell their own story? You could even dress up like a reporter and interview them!

Say your next lesson is on Noah. Is there someone in your church who could dress up like Noah, who knows the story well and could come and tell it?

One young adult class was studying the story of Ruth. The class was taught by a couple. They decided to introduce that story by coming to class as Ruth and Boaz. That class is still talking about the lesson. You see, this made the story come alive! It made the class realize that the story was about real people.

We will never forget the day the wise men visited our Sunday School. Several men in the church came dressed as the wise men. They told their story and gave information about themselves—their names, what gifts they were bringing, and so on. All was going well until the children asked, "Where did you park your camels? We want to see them!"

If you are going to do something like this, you need to plan it far ahead of time. It takes a good deal of preparation.

Suddenly, as we sat in class one Sunday, the door burst open and in came several persons (members of the class) dressed as robbers. They took one of the men out of his seat and pretended to beat him up and rob him, leaving him against the wall. Then in came a priest with a white collar. He looked at the man and said to himself, "I can't help him. I'll be late for the worship service." Then in came a woman, obviously a Sunday School teacher, carrying her Bible and an arm full of teaching resources . . . As you have no doubt guessed, the lesson for the day was on the Good Samaritan. Within a few moments, the class was in a discussion on what went on and what it means to be a neighbor.

Does the story have dialogue in it? If it does, type it out and let several persons in the class read the various parts. *The Good News Bible* is especially good for reading the story like this.

Let the children act out the story. Children are natural actors. They pretend to be other persons as part of their play. It's one way they learn. Use that in teaching.

One Sunday the lesson was on Noah. We had a learning station, or center, in which the children could dress up like Noah and his family or one of the animals to be taken on the ark. And part of the time that day was used to help Noah gather the animals to be taken on the ark. We had an ark made of cardboard with a door and everything!

Show Them the Story

When you can help your class see as well as hear the story, you greatly increase interest and understanding. Here are some ways to show them the story.

Video. Many of the stories in the Bible have been or are being put on video. Some are animated and others have real live actors.

I have used videos with children and adults. Sometimes I will show the whole story and then we will discuss it, or show part of it, pause, and then ask for comments and questions.

I used the movie, "The Ten Commandments" when we were studying a series on Moses. I used excerpts from the film to introduce the lesson each Sunday.

There are videos available that take you on a tour of the lands of the Bible, the places where Jesus visited, for example. Showing the actual place the story took place can be quite effective! Some even narrate the stories while showing the place where it took place.

See the end of the article for a list of video series available.

Filmstrips. They are available on just about every story in the Bible. Some come with a script to read or a cassette. They have the advantage of telling and showing the story at the same time. They also come for all ages.

Make sure you preview it before use. Is it appropriate for the lesson and your age group? Does it have questions you can use to follow up?

Objects. Is there some object suggested in the Bible story itself that you can use as a visual aid to help tell it? Look over your upcoming lessons. What's in the stories that can help them see the story and not just hear it? A water-jug, coins, a lamp, baskets, a scroll and other objects from the story create interest and teach at the same time.

Models. A teacher made a model of the temple in Jerusalem from pictures and information gained through study. So when she taught the story about the cleansing of the temple, she could show where Jesus was—in the Court of the Gentiles. She gave the model to the church to be used by other teachers.

Maps. They can help you tell Bible stories. For example, if you are teaching the story of the Exodus or one of Paul's missionary journeys, it would make the story more interesting to point out the places mentioned in the story as you get to each one.

Puppets. Young children love puppets. You can make your own or let the children make some of them. Let the puppet tell the story or allow the children to tell it through the puppets they make. You can purchase Bible character puppets to use in telling stories. Make your own scenes—landscapes, houses, backdrops, etc.

One teacher has a story puppet named Homer. Whenever the children see Homer appear, they know that it's time for a Bible story.

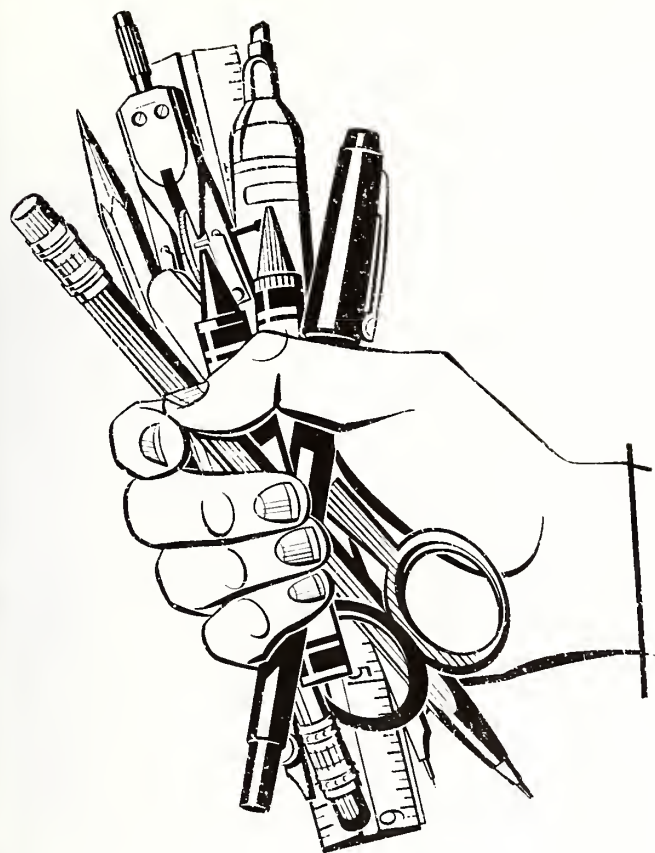
Felt boards. Many teachers of young children have used this visual aid for years. Most curriculum materials for children include figures to use on felt boards. Young children do not have the ability or experience to conceptualize some of the persons and objects in a story. They need to see them as they are being told the story. For example, you could merely tell them a story about the good shepherd and the sheep and they would only have a vague idea of what you were saying. However, if you have a figure of the shepherd and the sheep to show them, they will understand and remember much better.

How to use it? Have the children sit in front of you so that all of them can see. As various persons or objects are mentioned in the story, place the Bible figure on the board. You can even give the figures to the children and let them place them on the board at the right time in the story.

You can get felt boards, also called flannel-boards, and figures in our bookstores. They have all the materials you'll need to use this great aid to telling Bible stories.

Pictures. If you have pictures of the Bible characters or various scenes in the story, use them to help tell it. You can just show each picture and let the class tell the story. Or, show the picture and ask the children to describe what's happening and what the characters are feeling, thinking, etc.





You can let children draw pictures of the Bible story. Let them use the pictures to retell the story. Sometimes I have done this before even telling the story, especially if I thought they already knew it well. It also helps you find out just how much they do know and how they look at things.

Slides. This can be a very effective aid to telling stories. Can you imagine the impact of reading the story of Jesus being baptized in the Jordan while someone shows slides of the Jordan River, especially of the place Jesus may have been that very day?

Symbols. Use ones that represent a key character, event, or theme in the story. If several symbols are used in the story, you can use them to actually tell the story.

The best book I have found on symbols is *Symbols of the Church*, edited by Carroll Whittemore (Abingdon), 1984. It has an illustration and explanation for each one.

Suppose you are telling a story about one of the apostles of Jesus. Each apostle has a symbol you could use in teaching about him. In fact, what a great way to learn who they were—through the symbols that represent them!

Get Them Involved

Good stories have the power to make us feel as if we are right there on the scene. We feel with the characters. We identify with them. Make use of this in telling the stories of the Bible. Ask questions like, "What do you suppose Peter was thinking and feeling as he stood in the courtyard after Jesus was arrested?" "With what character do you most identify in the story of the prodigal son?"

Use sensory Bible study to help them put themselves into the story. For example, for the story on the calming of the sea, ask the class members to close their eyes, pretending that they are there with Jesus and the disciples. Read portions of the story and pause to ask them what they hear, see, feel, smell, and even taste.

Conclusion

You can tell Bible stories in new and meaningful ways. Just allow yourself plenty of time for creative preparation, get good resources, and dare to try something new!

Resources

Storytelling Resources

- Using Storytelling in Christian Education*, by Patricia Griggs. (Abingdon), 1981.
- 20 Ways to Use Drama in Teaching the Bible*, by Judy Gattis Smith. (Abingdon), 1981.
- The Storyteller in Religious Education*, by Jeanette Perkins Brown. (The Pilgrim Press), 1967.
- Storytelling—With Stories to Tell*, by Elaine Ward. (0734C Discipleship Resources), 1981.
- Creative Teaching Methods*, by Marlene LeFever, has many practical suggestions for telling stories. It's published by David C. Cook.

Videos

"Hannah-Barbera's the Greatest Adventure: Stories from the Bible."

"Superbook." This animates series has two stories on each cassette.

(The Ayden Bookstore has many of these for rent or can sell them to you. Give them a call: 746-6128.)

"Gerbert." He's a lovable puppet who tells and sings Bible stories. Write to: Evangelical Films, 1750 Northwest Highway, Suite 250, Garland, Texas 75041.

For videos using real life characters, check local video stores. Most have a section on Bible movies.

"The Wonder Series." This series takes you to various Bible land sites. Write to: Jerusalem Marketplace, 1467 Patton Drive, Boulder, CO 80303.

Filmstrips

Concordia Publishing House, 3558 South Jefferson Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63118.

American Baptist Films, Box 851, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19482.

Write and ask for their catalogues.



SEVEN WAYS TO HELP YOUR PASTOR

by Wendell M. Leckbee _____

When asked to write about a subject so dear to me, my first thought was that it would be easy! There are so many ways the average layman can assist his pastor that to condense the list to a select few is somewhat of a problem.

There's an interesting story in Exodus 17:11-12 about conflict and

victory. Moses and the Israelites won a decisive battle over Amalek because two men stood faithfully and did what they could.

It may well be that your pastor's hands are not heavy. It is quite likely that his heart is heavy. Nothing short of God's presence encourages a down-hearted pastor any more than the support of loyal men.

1. *Be what you're supposed to be.* When it comes to helping the pastor, we think of things we can do. While that's good, our first consideration should focus on what we can be.

What a boost to the pastor to know he can count on you. But what a blow to him and the church when we miss the mark on right

(Turn the Page)



living. There's nothing more important than being our best.

2. *Perform according to your profession.* Did you know that when you make a profession of faith certain standards of conduct are expected? Every member of a Free Will Baptist church professes to believe the doctrines and standards of conduct portrayed in our *Covenant*.

As you go about your daily routine, you demonstrate what a Free Will Baptist is. It may well be that you are the only representative of a Free Will Baptist church that some people will ever know. To that person, you represent the local church and denomination.

It's important that we live up to our profession. The heartthrob of every pastor can be read in 3 John 4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

3. *Be a supporter.* A supporter of the pastor supports more than just the man. The true success of a pastor's ministry is revealed in how well his people support the total Free Will Baptist program.

My pastor would be deeply disappointed if he moved on and left us doing less after his departure. The greatest evidence of support is personal growth and knowledge of Jesus, not personal attachment to the pastor. Remember, God's man spends his life trying to draw men close to the Master, not to himself.

4. *Be a friend.* Friends do more than their duty. A true friend is there when needed most. A friend may often stay in the background and out of sight, but when he's needed he steps forward to lend a hand or shoulder a burden.

Friendship means more than being an acquaintance. Real

friendship must be earned. Your pastor will learn to know you and appreciate you as a friend when he sees you there through good times and bad.

5. *Be dependable.* Be where you are supposed to be. This includes being present for every service, unless providentially hindered. Be in Sunday School, morning worship, Sunday night service, prayer meeting, visitation, Woman's Auxiliary meetings (for the ladies) or Layman's League, revival and special church functions.

If you have special responsibilities, such as teacher, be there early. Don't burden the pastor with the task of explaining to a visitor why the teacher is not there. No matter what office or responsibility you fill, it is most important to be there. What a help to a pastor to know that workers are in place doing their jobs at all times. What an added burden to the pastor when laymen offer half-hearted and irregular service.

6. *Do work.* Work in the church involves so many different things—teaching, ushering, music, nursery, maintenance of property, serving on a board, visitation and a host of other things.

The point is, there's something that you can do. You can help lighten the pastor's load and at the same time strengthen the church by doing your part of the work.

7. *Do pray.* Your pastor needs and appreciates your prayers in his behalf. Let him know that you're praying for him, not just on Sunday in a public service, but all week long in your own private prayer time. This area of helping your pastor may be the least visible, but it is vital.

I love and support my pastor because he lives what he preaches. He has seen men grow because of his influence. I pledge to be more help!

Reprinted from *Contact*, August 1988.



NATIONAL SURVEY REVEALS CONCERNS OF PASTORS' WIVES

Believing the survey to be the first of its kind, the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) has just released a nationwide, transdenominational survey detailing the personal and spiritual needs, concerns, viewpoints and feelings of pastors' wives.

NAE's Task Force on the Family, which was appointed at the Association's 1984 Annual Convention, discovered during a half decade of research that the families of ministers needed primary attention and that pastors seemed reluctant to address the pressing needs of families within their congregations as long as family needs in the parsonage went unmet.

Commenting on the results of the survey, NAE Executive Director Billy A. Melvin said, "It is my hope that the survey findings will be a tool that will be used by both local churches and denominations . . . that they will take seriously the specific suggestions offered to strengthen parsonage families."

A large majority of women responding to the survey indicated that they enjoy the role of pastor's wife. They feel *fulfilled*, *adequate* for the responsibilities placed upon them and *positive* about family life. Of course, this experience is not universal; the role seems to require an optimistic, positive attitude. Problems with the role of being a pastor's wife seem to decrease with age.

Adjectives most likely to be selected as strongly characterizing their role were positive descriptions like *challenging* (72 percent), *satisfying* (67 percent), *demanding* (66 percent), *rewarding* (66 percent) and *stretching* (63 percent). Negative possibilities such as routine (18 percent),

frightening (20 percent), or depressing (20 percent) were least likely to be chosen.

Sociologist Kenneth E. Crow of Mid-America Nazarene College in Olathe, Kansas, stated that the survey enhances contemporary understanding of women who are married to men in the ministry. Wives will find comfort as they discover that their experience is not as isolated as it may have seemed. Denominational leaders will find practical ways they can more effectively assist the mates of those who lead their congregations. And local congregations will learn of ways they can ease the load and help spouses find fulfillment.

Crow drew four basic conclusions from the data.

1. Training and education are needed, especially for younger wives, in such areas as counseling, discipling tools and techniques, and time management.
2. While the number of clerical marriages experiencing severe problems appears to be relatively small, pastors and their spouses are not immune from the problems that affect other couples. About one in every 25 ministers' wives seems to be experiencing severe problems. Unfortunately, these women may be more isolated from trustworthy and confidential help than other professional wives would be. The expectations placed upon them—coupled with a sense that any admission or appearance of personal problems could mar their husbands' effectiveness—seem to work against the development and delivery of helpful resources for those women who need them.
3. The wives of ministers share the common needs of busy Americans. They need help in such areas as coping with stress and preparing for retirement. Clergy salaries and congregational and/or denominational expectations undoubtedly contribute to these problems, rather than their solutions.
4. In selecting from a list of resources that could benefit them

most, the women selected as the highest priority a national ministers' wives newsletter (64 percent). Second and third choices were a local support group of pastors' wives (58 percent) and a national ministers' wives magazine (56 percent). Least selected: a national or regional conference for either wives (22 percent) or for husbands and wives (28 percent).

Some of the other findings:

- Four out of five see their role as God's will for their lives.
- Half say they love being married to a clergyman.
- Slightly more than half feel they have been adequately trained for the role.
- One in five believes parishioners view pastors' wives as unpaid assistant ministers.
- One in five also feels that most church members don't understand them.
- Two out of five find it difficult to find time for both family and ministry.
- One in six says she is close to burnout.
- Eighty-five percent call their marriages healthy and compatible.
- Four out of five have confidence in their husbands' fidelity.
- Almost two-thirds say their children enjoy being ministers' kids.
- A very small minority (3 percent) say they would consider divorce if it were not for the congregation or the children.
- Sixty-three percent say they could use regular exercise while 56 percent could use some rest and relaxation and 46 percent need a "real vacation."
- Many (44 percent) need a trusted friend. Almost as many would like a support group (41 percent).
- Developing a deeper relationship with God (55 percent) and spiritual renewal (46 percent) are current needs of most of the women.
- Half want to increase their Bible knowledge.
- Sixty-eight percent described their relationship with Jesus Christ as developing steadily or as stable and satisfying.
- The highest percentage of felt needs: developing counseling skills (57 percent), learning to disciple other women (57 percent) and time management (50 percent).

The typical spouse responding to the survey was in her thirties or forties. Only 21 percent were employed full-time. This figure was 11 percent for women with school-age children. Attendance at Sunday morning worship at the churches their husbands pastor was less than 250 people for three-fourths. One-third served in churches where less than 100 people worship on Sunday morning.

In the fall of 1989, 570 women representing 56 denominational groups, including 30 of the 44 NAE-member denominations, responded to the survey. No significant differences were found between the wives of ministers that serve in NAE denominations and the wives of ministers in other denominations or fellowships. The survey results have a sampling error of plus or minus four percentage points.

For those who wish to explore specific issues in depth, an expanded booklet containing tables illustrating extensive information from the total group as well as from selected subgroups is available at a cost of \$10 postage-paid from NAE. The tables facilitate comparison of responses by age, education, employment status, the tenure of their husbands' pastorate, number of Sunday worshipers in their church and the presence of children at home. Copies of the executive summary are available at a cost of \$5 each, postage-paid.

NAE is a voluntary association of individuals, denominations, churches, schools and organizations dedicated to united action without theological compromise. NAE represents more than 50,000 local churches from 77 Protestant denominations and serves more than 15 million people through its subsidiary, affiliates and commissions. NAE headquarters is in Carol Stream, Illinois.

Our Convention's Five-Year Theme HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

(Isaiah 39:5b)

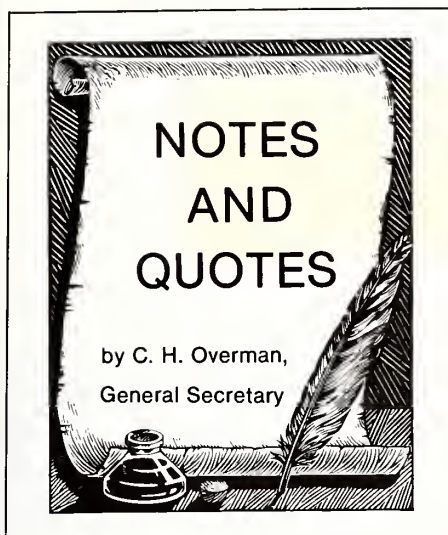
Listen—Romans 10:17; **Understand**—Luke 24:45; **Act**—James 1:22



Annual Themes

- 1990-91—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Commitment (Romans 12:1-2; Psalm 37:5)
1991-92—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Outreach (Acts 18:15; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 10:2; Acts 1:8)
1992-93—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Discipleship (Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23; 1 Peter 4:10)
1993-94—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Stewardship (1 Corinthians 4:2; 1 Corinthians 6:20)
1994-95—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Ministry (Galatians 6:10; 1 Peter 4:10-11)

This five-year theme has been adopted by the Executive Committee of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and presented to the conference moderators, ministry directors and board chairmen, commissions and boards of the Convention. It is hoped that this theme will be carried out as suggested by the Convention. Churches and ministers are urged to unite in emphasizing this theme. This fall's Convention will focus on the theme and especially on the subject of "Commitment." It is our desire that the coming year, 1990-91, will truly be a year of deep spiritual commitment to His will as Free Will Baptists. "Hear the Word of the Lord."



A TRUE AND HUMBLE SERVANT

Those who knew Dr. Jesse P. Barrow would most certainly agree that Free Will Baptists lost a true and humble servant of God when he passed from our midst on March 11, 1990. Dr. Barrow was 91 years old and living in Nashville, Tennessee, at the time of his death.

Funeral services were conducted on March 14 in Nashville, and memorial services were conducted at Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, Snow Hill, on March 16, with pastor Leon Grubbs and former pastor L. B. Woodall, officiating. Interment followed in the Hull Road cemetery.

Having been reared in the Hull Road community and uniting at an early age with the church there, Brother Barrow was always faithful to his church, and upon his visits "back home," he would be invited to teach in VBS or in Sunday School and he would never decline the invitation.

Dr. Barrow was a graduate of Moody Bible Institute. He later earned three degrees from Northern Baptist Seminary—a Th.B., Th.G., and B.D. He received another bachelor's degree at Wheaton College, and a master's degree at Winona Lake School of Theology. He received his Ph.D. at Burton Seminary. His

education was not just limited to degrees, however, for he read many books and reference materials and thus kept himself abreast of current Christian news and happenings.

I first met Dr. Barrow when I enrolled as a ministerial student at the Free Will Baptist Bible College in January of 1950, where he served as a Bible instructor for some twenty years. His influence on my life, as well as the many others that he taught, had a profound impact on my life and ministry. His requirements in such courses as "Synthetic Bible Studies," and "Bible Doctrines," were "tough" to say the least. I often wondered how in the world I would be able to read two hours from the Bible for each hour spent in one of his classes, but somehow I would be able to report most of the hours. I have not forgotten his "checkups" in Bible doctrines which, after calling the roll, would be something like, "Please give me the outline under Roman Numeral III, under the Doctrine of God, along with the Scriptures," which had been our previous day's assignment. Although those days were tough, they nonetheless helped to mold my mind and indeed proved to be stepping stones in Christian growth and learning.

Dr. Barrow was a man of deep love for God and a compassionate spirit for his fellowman, and especially for his students. I remember many times when tears would form in his eyes as he talked about the grace of God, or as he related some Christian experience to his students. He taught and lived with firm convictions of right and wrong. There was no mingling of worldly affairs in his life or testimony. In him you sensed a closeness that he had with his Lord. His physical erectness as he walked to school each day, his manner of sitting on stage with the other faculty members during chapel services (erect,

feet flat on the floor, knees together) were indicative of his Christian stand and personal convictions about the Christian life. He also possessed a very personal touch as he would often inquire about our families, or about our home churches.

Later in life, when I began my work as assistant editor of the Free Will Baptist Press in 1957, it was my privilege to edit and read his "Bible Questions and Answers" that ran weekly in *The Free Will Baptist* for many years. Comments from his readers were frequent. Surely, his insight into biblical truths enlightened the pathway for many Christians as he delved into the Bible for the answer to their questions.

I talked to Brother Barrow the last time by telephone while I was on vacation in Nashville a few years ago. I'm glad I did. I'm grateful to have known him, that he became a part of my life.

Dr. Barrow is survived by a daughter, Juanita Thompson of Tennessee; a son, John Owen Barrow II of California; two brothers, Taft Barrow of Colorado, and N. Bruce Barrow of Snow Hill, North Carolina; three sisters, Charlotte Gray, Myrtle Brown and Mattie Barrow of North Carolina.

REMEMBER THESE SERVANTS

In recent weeks we have learned about the sickness of several of our ministers, and we want to pass this information on to our Free Will Baptist people.

The Rev. James A. Evans is a patient at Lenoir County Hospital in Kinston. He is recovering from a stroke and shows continual improvement. It is likely that he will remain under medical care at the hospital until such time as surgery can be performed to remove a blockage. His speech was not noticeably affected, but there was some affect on his left side. Please keep him in your prayers.

(Turn the Page)

The Rev. W. S. Burns, pastor of Free Union Church, Pinetown, has also been recovering from a stroke suffered several weeks ago. He does have other medical complications. He informs us that he is noticing some improvement and is able to fill his pulpit. Remember Brother Burns. His address is Route 1, Box 97, Pinetown, NC 27865.

The Rev. Bobby Futrell was diagnosed about three months ago as having multiple sclerosis. He is not serving a church at the present time and is limited in the amount of work he can do. Brother Futrell's address is Route 1, Box 330-F, Pikeville, NC 27863.

Mrs. O. B. Everette (Kathleen Hansley Everett), the wife of one of our Eastern Conference ministers, has been under treatment for cancer at Duke Hospital since 1986. She has undergone surgery several times during these years and is possibly facing more surgery. She requests your prayers and concern. Her home address is Route 1, Box 337, Sneads Ferry, NC 28460.

(Suggestions in behalf of these: pray, receive a love offering, send cards, visit.)

WHY WE DON'T WITNESS

by Jill Briscoe

Years ago I was praying with one of my children at bedtime, and I asked him if he had any problems we should pray about. He couldn't think of any, though I could think of a number! Rather unwisely, I pressed the point and asked, "Don't you have any problems at school?"

"No," he replied firmly.

"Don't the kids give you a hard time because you're a Christian?"

Again the answer was no.

Thinking back to my own traumatic school days, I said, "But kids always give you a hard

time if you let them know you're a Christian."

His reply was frank beyond belief: "All the more reason you don't let them know!" With that, quite happily, he turned over to sleep.

With the refreshing candor of the very young, he had put into words the practical reasons why many Christians don't witness. They don't want to take the consequences. In all fairness to my son, I must explain that he came to see things differently and went on to be used by God in numerous lives at school.

If you lack concern for those who don't know Christ, try the following:

1. Find out whether selfishness is controlling your actions so

much that the Holy Spirit can't work in you. Recognize this as wrong, confess it, and ask the Holy Spirit to give you his concern for those who need the Lord.

2. Check your theology, especially the parts relating to each person's condition before God. Is your behavior consistent with your belief? If not, ask God to help you have the courage to be consistent.
3. List all the hang-ups you have about witnessing. Pray about each one and begin to see them in the light of what God has told you to do.
4. Continue to do these things—because if you don't you'll find other concerns taking the place of this one.

Excerpt from *What It Means to Be a Christian* by Stuart and Jill Briscoe offered by David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 N. Grove, Elgin, IL 60120.

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AUGUST



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Preview: Convention '90

16

Notes and Quotes

19

"The Most Serious Trip of Our Lives"

20

Faith

21

Church Growth and Involvement

22

The Two Daisies

24

Overcoming the Roadblocks: Navajos Translate the Bible

26

The Joy of Repentance

28

Sunday School Teachers Hear Cries of Broken-Home Teens

29

Beatitudes for a Choir

30

Children's Corner

31

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

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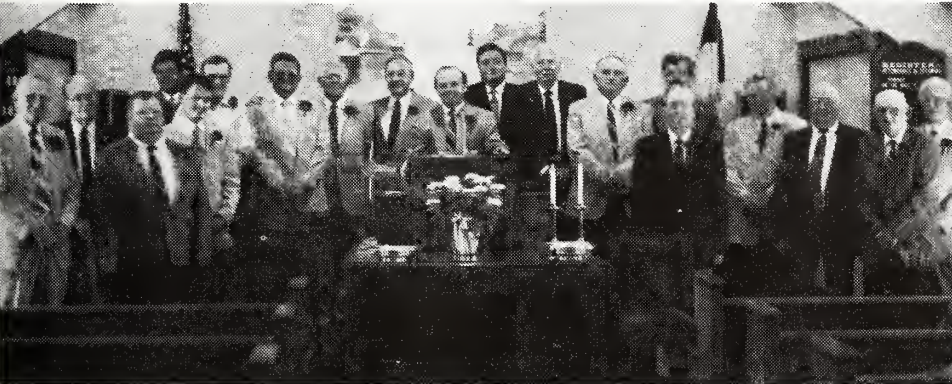
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

RECOGNIZED FOR ATTENDANCE



Seven youths were recognized recently at Sidney Church for Sunday School perfect attendance for the 1989-90 Sunday School year. In addition to an attendance pin, each student was given a free meal at Hardee's. The students are: (front row, left to right) Kayla Clayton, Karen Davis, Chad Poole, (back row) Kerrie Clayton, Missy Modlin, Lloyd Davis, and Stephen Poole.

MEN HONORED



The Woman's Auxiliary of Pleasant Hill Church, Central Conference, honored all of the men that were at church on Father's Day. The women presented a short program and gave each man a red boutonniere.

The Rev. Tony Parrish, pastor of the church, is standing behind the pulpit in the picture above.

HOMEcoming SCHEDULED

Hickory Chapel Church, Highway 561 East, Ahoskie, NC, will observe Homecoming on Sunday, August 26, 1990. Services will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m. The pastor, the Rev. Robert May, will deliver the morning message. Lunch will be from 12:15 until 1:30 p.m. The afternoon service will begin at 1:30

p.m. and consists of recognition of visitors, church history, special music, memorial service and praise in song.

All former ministers and members are encouraged to attend.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet on August 4 for its

annual Field Day. All youth and sponsors are encouraged to attend.

YAWN AWARDED



The Rev. Billy R. Yawn

The Rev. Billy R. Yawn was awarded the Doctor of Religious Education degree from International Seminary during graduation ceremonies June 8, 1990. The twentieth anniversary celebration and commencement were held at the Orange County Convention Center, International Drive, Orlando, Florida. Dr. Yawn was awarded a plaque in honor of forty-one years in Christian service.

In fulfilling the requirements for the degree, Dr. Yawn completed a project demonstrating excellence of one hundred ten essays on educating the Christian population and a doctoral dissertation on "The Doctrine and Influence of Martin Luther Upon Education Among the Multitudes."

Dr. Yawn is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, Atlantic Christian College, and East Carolina University. He has pastored Tee's Chapel Church (interim), and Everett Chapel Church of Clayton, NC. Currently, he serves Union Grove Church, Pinkney, NC. Dr. Yawn is a teacher of math and science at
(Turn the Page)

Smithfield Elementary School. He holds the Education Specialist and Advanced Graduate Certificates in Elementary Education.

International Seminary is accredited by the Accrediting Commission International for Schools, Colleges and Theological Seminaries. Membership is held with Florida Federation of Christian Colleges and Universities which is recognized by the Florida State Department of Education. International Seminary is an approved institution for the training of United States Military Chaplains and Veteran's Hospital Chaplains.

TEACHER'S APPRECIATION SUPPER

The members of Winterville Sunday School honored their Sunday School teachers on Saturday night, June 30, by having a covered-dish supper. After a delicious dinner each teacher was recognized and given a certificate of appreciation by the Sunday School Superintendent, Rob Weathersby. Guy Corbett was given special recognition for his 29 years of service with a plaque of appreciation. A gospel singing group, "Moving Up," from Farmville, rendered special music for the evening. The pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, closed with prayer. As each teacher left, he was given a potted plant as a remembrance gift. On Sunday morning following the supper, the new superintendent, Seth Cayton, presented Rob Weathersby a certificate of appreciation and thanks for a job well done.

FLAGS PRESENTED TO FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

by Debbie Daughtridge

Good things are happening for First Church, Rocky Mount. On Wednesday, June 6, the Woodmen of the World, Lodge 423, gave two flags to the church. Robert Tyson and James Hodge presented the flags. Mr. Hodge told the church the meaning of the stripes and stars of the American flag. He then led the church in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Tyson then described the colors and meanings of the Christian flag. He then led the church in the pledge to the Christian flag.

On July 1, the flags were used in our first July 4th service. It really added so much to our services as the flags were presented and we said our pledges. The flags have added so much to our church and its services.

We are so thankful to have such organizations as the Woodmen of the World that do so much and help preserve our American freedoms.

THOMAS MELVIN BOWEN

I would like to recommend Thomas Melvin Bowen to any church who is seeking a supply speaker for Sunday mornings and evenings and for the Wednesday night services. He is a member of Reedy Branch Church and has often spoken in the absence of his pastor. He has a message that is filled with Bible passages and is well prepared. Anyone interested in using Thomas is asked to call him at 756-9839, or the Rev. Willis Wilson at 756-1911. Thomas is licensed by the Central Conference and is hoping to be ordained as soon as possible.

Willis Wilson, Pastor
Reedy Branch F.W.B. Church

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Bridgeton Church is in need of a pastor. Interested ministers should contact Tommy French, P.O. Box 12, Bridgeton, NC 28519; phone number, (919) 637-6857.

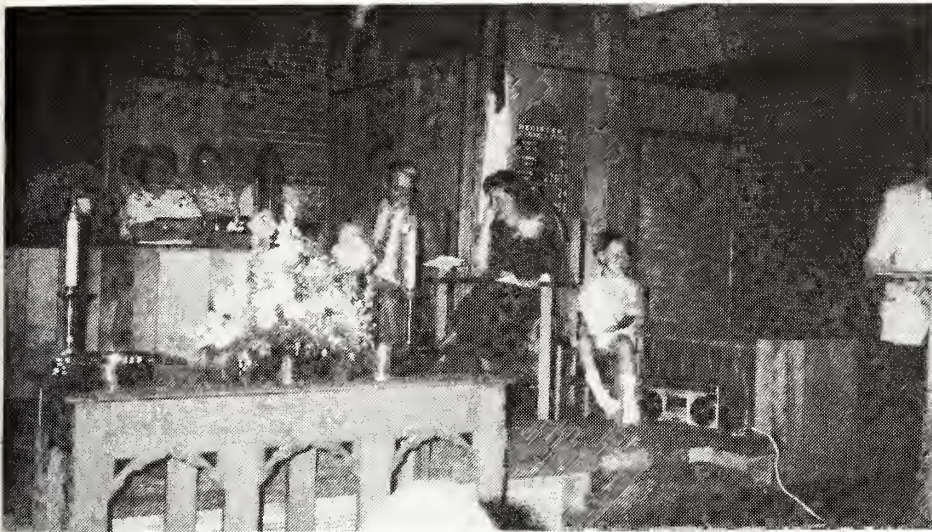
Shiloh Church is in need of a full-time pastor. Interested ministers should contact John Mark Windley by writing to him at P.O. Box 102, Pinetown, NC 27865; or by phoning (919) 927-4863.

ADDRESS CHANGE

The Rev. Harry G. Brown has advised us of his new address. It is: 3308 Hope Valley Road, Durham, NC 27707; phone, (919) 489-8584.



Robert Weathersby, left, is shown presenting the plaque for 29 years of service to Guy Corbett, right.



PASTOR AND FAMILY APPRECIATION DAY

submitted by Pat Willis

On June 24, Davis Church celebrated Pastor and Family Appreciation Day. At the beginning of the worship service, the Rev. and Mrs. Joe Ard, Billy Joe and Caleb were surprised to see their family from out of town seated in the sanctuary. Family members came from Kinston, Pink Hill, Havelock and even South Carolina to surprise the Ards on their special day.

Mr. Joe Williams asked Joe, Billie, Billy Joe and Caleb to have a seat in the front of the sanctuary for the remainder of the service. Boutonnieres and a corsage were pinned on the family. Mr. Williams thanked the Ards for all the hard work, support, prayers and service they had given to our church during the past 4½ years. Several members of the congregation, including family members, made remarks thanking the Ards and praising them for their dedication to God's work. Mr. Milton Styron closed the remarks session and led in the morning prayer. Joe and Billie Ard both made remarks back to the congregation, giving words of praise and thanks to them. Mr. Williams presented the Ards with a gift of \$200 as a special thank you from the church.

Mrs. Dianne Riley presented the morning message, challenging all present to be true servants of God. She closed the service with a solo, accompanied by Marla Ham, sister of Mr. Ard. Mrs. Vicki Grady, sister of Billie Ard, gave framed photos of the church to the Ards and one to the church congregation. Flowers on the altar were given in honor of the Ards.

Dinner followed in the fellowship hall.

A SPECIAL COUPLE HONORED

submitted by Edith B. Gardner

May's Chapel Church, of Route 3, Dudley, NC, honored the Rev. Leonard B. Woodall and wife, Bessie, with a reception on Sunday evening, June 24, 1990, to show appreciation for the love, guidance, and dedicated services administered to us during their interim pastorate.

For two years, Brother Woodall has proved a blessing to the people of May's Chapel as a loyal friend, minister, and leader. He more than fulfilled our spiritual needs and gave needed encouragement. He was a blessing to our physically sick and their families. He shared our happiness



The Rev. and Mrs. Leonard Woodall

and gave comfort in times of our sorrows.

His wife, Bessie, was an inspiration to us also with her faithfulness, encouragement, love, and winning personality.

We love, give thanks for, and appreciate them more than words can express. We pray God's blessings on them as they venture to other churches and other phases of God's work.

Also on June 24, we welcomed Brother Dwayne A. Jones and his fiancée, Faye Reardon. Dwayne began his duties as pastor of May's Chapel on Sunday, July 1, 1990. We ask God's blessings on him and our church family as we work together to help further the gospel of our Lord.

SPECIAL THANKS

Dear Christian Friends,

On behalf of James A. Evans, the children would like to thank you for the many prayers, cards and visits. We continue to be overwhelmed at the love and support that you have shown. Thank you so much.

Please continue to keep him in your prayers as his progress continues. He is making tremendous recovery and is thankful for each day.

In Christian love,
Kay Griffin, daughter

MINISTER AVAILABLE

Available for either part time, interim or full-time ministry: Contact the Rev. Mike Daniels, 603 Wildwood Drive, Durham, NC 27712; telephone 479-8227.

Very sincerely,
Mike Daniels

OUR CHURCH IN PROGRESS

by Dr. E. M. Lall

It is real exciting to report the manifold progress our church has made on the soil of our country. Indeed, it is certainly a blessing from above. Nevertheless, it is because of the earnest prayers and valuable help offered by the Free Will Baptists in the United States. We are just the labourers in His vineyard.

Ever since we got hold of Christ Church property and started worshipping in the sanctuary, our congregation is increasing day by day, owing to new converts and some by new membership. It is really good to see the church fully packed on Sundays. Our ministers are bringing numbers of souls to Christ from paganism. It is impressive to note that the new converts are so rigid in their faith that they never miss the Sunday worship service. They are the people who carefully listen to the sermons and adhere to them.

This success is not taking place at Bareilly Church alone but is prevailing in all our churches and congregations. Since



November, 1,782 members have been added in the total strength of our church and we praise the Lord for enabling us to preach His Word.

Our schools are the boon in our ministry which too are rapidly gaining momentum (on the basis of qualitative education imparted in our institutions in spite of opposition). For some months, the

communalism has grown largely in our country and we, in minority, are the victims. Yet we are neither afraid nor lag behind in our mission for the Lord Jesus Christ. Suffering brings more joy, unity and purposefulness. We pray that it will be over soon through the divine majesty. Seeing the open worship services started in the country of Nepal, we know the agonies we face at present will not last too long!

THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD

by Jaapal Ontong

The Word of God is still the power of God unto salvation. God promised that His Word would not return unto Him void. These biblical truths were proven true again during the last week of March and the first week of April 1990.

March 26, 1990, the Evangelism Department of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines sent its evangelism team to the fishing village of Quito, located in Puerto



Princesa City on the edge of Princesa Bay. The team conducted a crusade through music, film showing, testimony and a message from God's Word. The speaker was Brother Diosdado Guian, teacher at Palawan Bible College. Two hundred people gathered to listen and five people received Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

April 2-10, 1990, the team took God's message of salvation to the northern part of the island of Palawan. They ministered in Icadam Banua, Calawag, Libertad and Itangil. Over 800 people heard the gospel and 40 people received Jesus Christ as their Saviour by faith.

The last week of April was a busy week as correspondence Bible study materials were prepared and sent to the people who received Christ as their Saviour. These materials will help in the follow-up of these new believers as the local churches in these areas try to incorporate the new brethren into the churches.

Please praise the Lord for these new believers and pray for the Evangelism Department; the director, the Rev. Jaapal Ontong; and his staff.

IT'S TIME TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL

With the summer coming to an end in just a few weeks, we, at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, are beginning to get our boys and girls ready to return to school.

Each year our staff assists our children in choosing just the right clothes and supplies. For many of our children it will remind them of a void in their lives, the absence of parents with whom to share this time.

I am sure you want to help fill that void and join with us in wanting the new school year to be a positive and productive one for our young people. For this to happen, they must feel good about

themselves and about school.

Purchasing school clothes is a special financial burden at this time of year. With the anticipated costs of returning to school—clothes, supplies, and fees—along with the normal summer slump in gifts that we see, it has become necessary to ask you to help us make the beginning of the school year successful for our children. You may send an extra-special gift to the School Fund and your gift will be used for needed clothing and other timely essentials that can help turn school work from failure to success. Or you may purchase the supplies and bring them to the Children's Home yourself. Either way, you are making an investment in the life of a child.

CHILDREN'S HOME SCHOOL AWARDS BANQUET

Below is a list of young people and the awards they received at the third annual School Awards Banquet held in Heritage Hall on May 28, 1990. Their award was a tee shirt with the name of the award printed on the shirt.

Best Conduct	Michelle Marina
Most Improved Conduct	Faith
Best Grade Point Average	Lisa
Best Historian	Gary
Best English Grades	Mary Ann
Best Mathematician	Carolyn Lisa
Future Scientist	Les
Most Athletic	Trina
Most Improved Grades	Tiffany Anita
Most Student of the Month Awards	Frankie
Seniors	Kenneth Trina Sherry

BRIDGE BUILDERS TO BE RECOGNIZED

Mount Olive College will recognize the 1989-90 Bridge Builders at a dinner in College Hall on Saturday, September 29, at 6:30 p.m. Bridge Builders are those persons who contribute \$100 or more at the annual Mount Olive

College gift support dinners.

The Bridge Builders program, which is divided into three clubs, College Club, \$100-499; President's Club, \$500-999; and the Trustee's Club, \$1000 or more; started in 1984 with 325 participants. There were 1,078 Bridge Builders last year, a 232% increase since the program began.

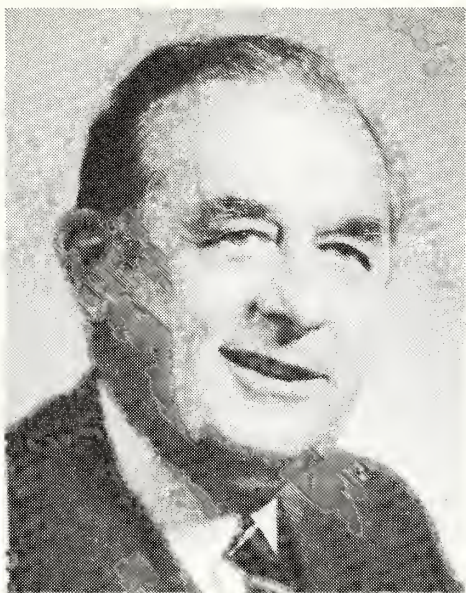
MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

AUGUST 6 and 7

The annual Ministers' Institute sponsored by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Free Will Baptists, will be held Monday-Tuesday, August 6-7 at Mount Olive College.

"Original Free Will Baptists in the 1990s" is the theme of this year's Institute. Scheduled speakers and their topics include: Mr. Glen Forrest, community development director with the Neuse River Council of Government in New Bern, "**The Demographics of Eastern North Carolina**"; Dr. K. David Hines, director of education for Christian ministries at MOC, "**The Mission and Servanthood of the Church**"; Dr. Eugene Sumner, chairman of the department of sociology and social work at Meredith College, "**Sociological and Theological Implications for Original Free Will Baptists**"; Dr. Albert Edwards, minister emeritus of the First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, "**Preaching and Pastoral Care in the 1990s**"; Chaplain Preston Smith, chaplain at Nash General Hospital in Rocky Mount, "**Family Life and Concerns in the 1990s**"; Chaplain Harry Grubbs, chaplain at Maury Correctional Center in Maury, "**Pastoral Care in the Technological Society**"; and the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and pastor of Little Rock Church, "**Free Will Baptists and the Challenges of the 1990s.**"

(Turn the Page)



Albert Edwards

The program, to be held in the Henderson Building, will begin at 9:30 a.m. each day and end at approximately 4 p.m. Ministers and lay persons are invited to attend. The registration fee for the Institute is \$10. For further information contact, Frank R. Harrison, College chaplain, at (919) 658-2502.

PLANNING SESSIONS SCHEDULED FOR MOC SUPPORT DINNERS

Planning sessions for the 1990 Mount Olive College gift support dinners have been scheduled from mid-August through mid-September. The sessions help volunteers set dates and places for the 17 dinners. The volunteers also receive an update on the work of the College. The dinners are held throughout eastern North Carolina in October and November.

For information on the planning sessions or the gift support dinners contact, Jean F. Ackiss, Director of Church Support at (919) 658-2502.

Following is a list of planning sessions scheduled for August and part of September:

1990 PLANNING SESSIONS Mount Olive College Dinners

Greene County, Thursday, August 16, 7:30 p.m., Hull Road Church, near Snow Hill.

Nash County, Sunday, August 19, 3 p.m., Free Union Church, near Spring Hope.

Duplin County, Monday, August 20, 7:30 p.m., Cabin Church, near Beulaville.

Edgembe-Halifax Counties, Tuesday, August 21, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Tarboro.

Wayne County, Thursday, August 23, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Goldsboro.

Beaufort County, Friday, August 24, 7:30 p.m., Memorial Church, near Chocowinity.

Pamlico County, Sunday, August 26, 3 p.m., Rock of Zion Church, Grantsboro.

Lenoir County, Monday, August 27, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Kinston.

Craven County, Tuesday, August 28, 7:30 p.m., Saint Mary's Church, New Bern.

Washington-Tyrrell-Martin Counties, Thursday, August 30, 7:30 p.m., Mount Tabor, near Creswell.

Carteret County, Friday, August 31, 7:30 p.m., Crab Point Church, Morehead City.

Jones County, Sunday, September 2, 3 p.m., Friendship Church, near Trenton.

Johnston-Wake Counties, Tuesday, September 4, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Smithfield.

FALL SEMESTER AT MOC BEGINS AUGUST 19

There is still time for interested persons to enroll for the fall semester at Mount Olive College. The semester begins Sunday, August 19, with orientation and advisement for all new freshmen. Classes will begin Thursday, August 23.

Financial aid includes the Free Will Baptist Tuition Grant (\$1,500 to qualified Free Will Baptist students) and the North Carolina Legislative Grant (\$1,100 available to North Carolina residents in full-time attendance at a North Carolina private college). Additional aid, up to the full level of need, is available to qualified students.

For more information contact, Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502.

INTERESTING COURSE SELECTION FOR MOC'S FALL SEMESTER

Several courses offered during the fall semester at Mount Olive College may be of particular interest to ministers and laypersons in the Free Will Baptist Church. Following is a brief description of each course and the time it will be offered.

Introduction to the Old Testament—An examination of the writings of the Old Testament, using an historical and interpretative approach to the writings (MWF—9 a.m., 12 noon, and 2



STATE YOUTH CONVENTION FULFILLS PLEDGE

Loretta Morris, outgoing State Youth Convention treasurer, presents a check in the amount of \$1,299.46, to Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College chaplain. The check represents the fulfillment of a \$5,000 pledge for the College's proposed Student Services Building. The youth convention made its first payment in August 1989. The money was raised through car washes, bake sales, walk-a-thons, and cleaning yards. They are the first group to make a pledge on the new building. Also pictured is Mark Lanier, outgoing youth convention vice president.

p.m., TTh-2 p.m.; Mondays-6:30 p.m.).

Hebrew Prophets-A study of the Old Testament prophets, their historical background, their teachings, and their contributions to the biblical faith (TTh-9:30 a.m., Dr. Michael Pelt, professor).

Christian Worship-A course designed to acquaint the student with the purpose, content, and symbols in public worship (Mondays-3 p.m., Frank Harrison, professor).

Pastoral Ministry-General introduction to the Christian ministry as a vocation with emphasis on the New Testament concept of pastoral care and the various duties of the pastor (Mondays-6:30 p.m., Frank Harrison, professor).

The Life and Teachings of Jesus-A study of the Gospels as sources for a knowledge of Jesus with attention to the theological perspective of each of the evangelists (TTh-3:30 p.m., Dr. K. David Hines, professor).

Hymnody-A study of the history of hymns and the role of hymn writers to 1900. The course includes the philosophy and use of the hymn in worship, Christian education, and evangelism (TTh-12:30 p.m., Carolyn Knox, professor).

Fall semester day classes begin Thursday, August 23 (evening classes begin Monday, August 27). Persons interested in any of these courses should contact the Admissions Office at (919) 658-2502).

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

Monday-Tuesday, August 6-7

Ministers' Institute
Sponsored by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists. Registration fee is \$10. Ministers and laypersons are invited to attend. For further information contact Frank R. Harrison, College Chaplain, at (919) 658-2502.

Sunday, August 19

New Students Arrive for Fall Semester
Applications are being accepted for new and transfer students and limited financial aid is still available. Contact the Admissions Office for a schedule of courses (919) 658-2502.

Thursday, August 23

Fall Semester Classes Begin
8 p.m., Rodgers Chapel
Chalk Artist
The Rev. Damon Wyatt of Portsmouth, VA, will present a special program. The public is invited to attend.

Tuesday, August 28

Fall Convocation
11 a.m., College Hall
Dr. Burkette Raper

Tuesday-Thursday, September 11-13
College Hall

North Carolina State Convention
of Original Free Will Baptists

Tuesday, September 18
11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel

Musical Program
Rick and Patti Jo Pulley

Thursday, September 27
7 p.m., College Hall

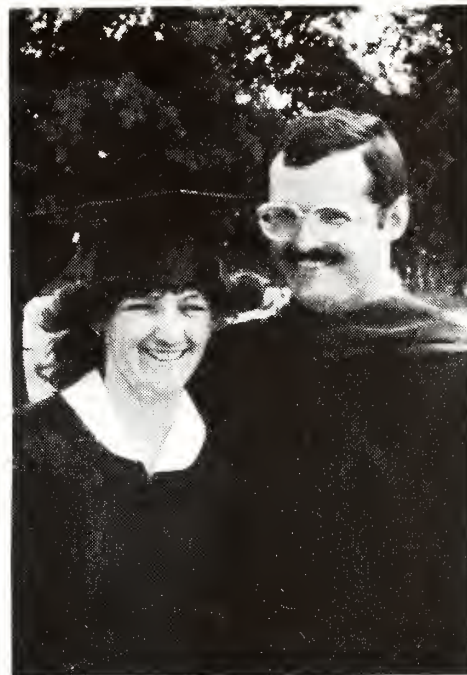
Science Lecture
Dr. Michael F. Corcoran
National Wildlife Federation

Saturday, September 29
6:30 p.m., College Hall

Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner

Thursday, October 4
7:30 p.m., Downtown Auditorium

Dr. Joel Schwartz
"Communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe"



SISTER CONGRATULATED

Sandy Grubbs Kosalka of Goldsboro receives congratulations from her brother, the Rev. Paul Grubbs (MOC class of 1975), former general supervisor of the Free Will Baptist Church of the Philippines.

Mrs. Kosalka, who attends Casey's Chapel Church in Wayne County, was one of 116 students who received a baccalaureate degree at Mount Olive College's 36th commencement exercises on May 12. This was the fifth and largest baccalaureate class at MOC.

The entire Grubbs family including parents, Lillian and the late Herman Grubbs, and their children, Adrian, Darrell, Frank, Harry, Leon, and Muriel Grubbs Overman, Paul, and Sandy, are alumni of Mount Olive College. Five of the six boys are ordained ministers in the Free Will Baptist church (photo by Sandra Phelps).

1990 STATE
CONVENTION:
September 11-13



LOCAL STUDENTS ATTEND MOC ORIENTATION DAY

These Free Will Baptist students were among those who attended a summer orientation session for incoming freshmen at Mount Olive College on Thursday, June 28. The day consisted of placement tests in English and math; an overview of student affairs, including residence life; and an orientation to the academic structure of the College. Students also met with their faculty advisors to select courses for the fall semester. Talking with MOC Director of Admissions Dianne Riley (center) are (l-r) Shane Woodall, Tee's Chapel; Amy Williams, Mt. Tabor; Donna Barnes, Little Rock; and Jay Gaskins, St. Mary's (New Bern).

The fall semester at MOC begins August 19. Although, a record enrollment of approximately 600 students is expected, the College still has space for a limited number of new applicants. Interested persons are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office, (919) 658-2502, for additional information. Financial aid is available (photo by Sandra Phelps).

FWB STUDENTS NAMED TO MOC DEAN'S LIST

Mount Olive College has published its spring 1990 Dean's List to honor students who attain high scholastic standing. To qualify for the list at the completion of each semester, students must have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, with no grade below a "C," and be attending on a full-time basis.

The following are Free Will Baptist students named to the list.

NAME
Amy Bunn
Stephanie Green
Sallie Hallisey
Sherrie Martin
Tanya Merritt
Tammy Mohn
Dean Rouse
Lenwood Smith II
Sylvia Suggs
Pamela Swinson
Michelle Taylor
Wendy Taylor
Sherry Toler
Dirk van der Plas
Tina Wetherington

DEAN'S LIST

CHURCH (COUNTY)
Daniel's Chapel (Wilson)
Pine Level (Johnston)
Memorial (Beaufort)
Shady Grove (Sampson)
Northeast (Wayne)
Jackson Heights (Lenoir)
Daly's Chapel (Lenoir, Eastern Conference)
St. Mary's (Craven)
Macedonia (Columbus)
Harmony (Wilson)
White Oak Grove (Lenoir)
Rock Springs (Nash)
New Haven (Craven)
Arapahoe (Pamlico)
Mosley's Creek (Craven)

STATE
CONVENTION
OF ORIGINAL
FREE WILL
BAPTISTS

September 11-13, 1990

Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, NC

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

PAYMENT NEWS

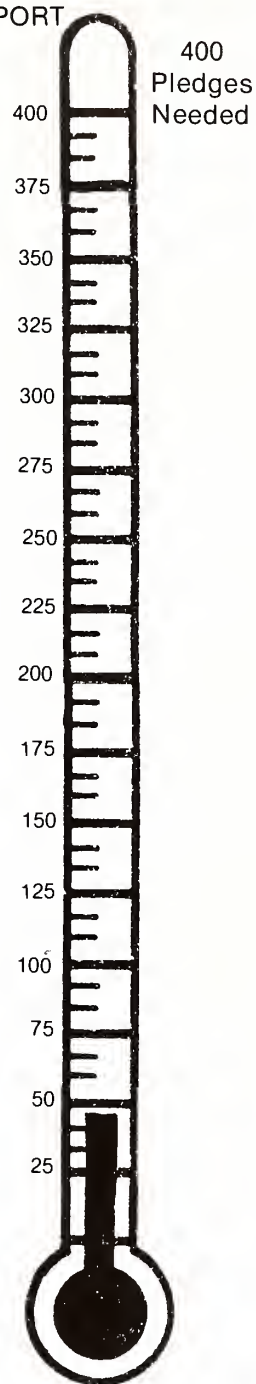
As Free Will Baptists, we believe that our Lord has commissioned us as a denomination to present the gospel to the world. As a denomination, Free Will Baptists have chosen several ways to do this at a denominational level. One can see this through the ministries of Church Finance Association, Cragmont Assembly, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Mount Olive College, Foreign Missions, Ministers' Program, and Home Missions. Each ministry has its own special way of presenting the gospel to the world.

Several years ago, a trend toward developing fund drives that would appeal to individuals was begun by denominational ministries mostly because of a decline in giving on the part of our churches. I believe that when churches call themselves "Free Will Baptists," they have committed themselves to support the ministries of the denomination. As part of our covenant, we have pledged ourselves to this task. Our ministries cannot exist without the support of the churches and individuals who make up the denomination.

Cragmont has launched a new fund drive this year directed at churches, auxiliaries, Sunday School classes, youth groups and individuals. Our goal is to retire the Cragmont debt by 1995, our "Year of Jubilee." We are encouraged by the initial response to this plan. However, we must emphasize that participation in the Jubilee Fund Drive must be over and above what your church, organization, or you as an individual are already contributing to Cragmont in order that the goal of retiring the debt be accomplished. The purpose of the Jubilee fund is to reduce the principle as enough funds become available. However, there will still be an annual payment to be made December 31, 1990. With half the year already passed, we have barely received enough funds to operate, and we have not been able to put any money aside for our annual payment. The purpose of this article is to remind you of this annual payment and let you know we are in need of funds for it.

We have formed a Jubilee Team made up of Cragmont friends who are interested in going into our churches for the purpose of sharing Cragmont and its ministry. Since I am limited in the amount of time I have for promotional work, I would like to recommend one of our team members to visit your church, show slides and share printed materials with your church. All ministries have their own special way of presenting the gospel. We are but an arm of the local church. When you support these ministries, you spread the gospel in a way you cannot do alone.

PLEDGE
SUPPORT

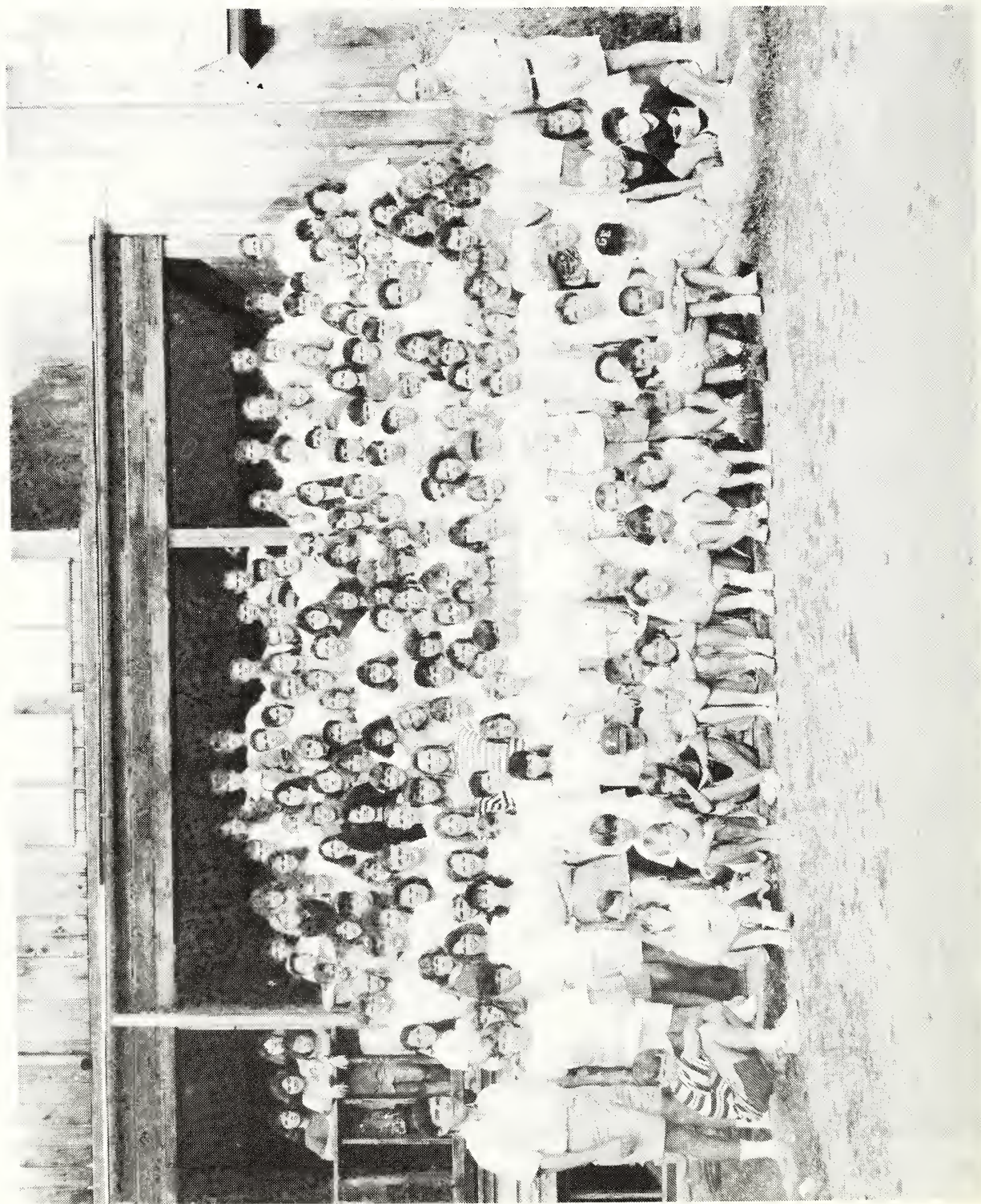


In order for Cragmont to be debt-free in 1995, approximately \$400,000 needs to be raised. Cragmont is looking for 400 supporters who will pledge \$1,000 each for this goal. Will you help?

For more information, contact Cragmont by phoning (704) 669-7677.

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

Christian Cadet Conference, directed by the Revs. Gary Bailey and Ronnie Hobgood, was attended by 182 campers and counselors. The conference began June 25 and concluded June 30, 1990. Daytime activities included classes and recreation. Evening hours were spent in vespers and fun times with skits and singing. A special feature class was held by the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs who have been missionaries in the Philippines. Trips to the mall, skating rink and recreation park were also taken. This week of camp saw nine new professions of faith. What a week!



July, 1990

To All Free Will Baptist Churches and Sunday Schools:

On July 2, 1990, the following motion was made and properly passed in the quarterly Sunday School Board meeting:

Given the present financial situation, we reluctantly give the field secretary a ninety day notice of termination of employment. This ninety day notice will be completed on October 1, 1990.

Due to the lack of sufficient financial support from the churches and Sunday Schools of our denomination, the board was forced to take this action. Over the last six years we have made available to you the services of our field secretary. Many of you have benefited from this great resource; however, some of you have provided little or no financial support necessary to maintain this position. Our budget for 1990-91 amounts to just \$12,000; yet, based on previous contributions, we can realistically anticipate contributions to be no greater than \$6,000. This board cannot work to meet the needs of our denomination relying on that kind of support. The only way we as your Sunday School Board can continue to fund the office of field secretary is through your **generous** and **consistent** support. We would like for you to make the Sunday School Board a permanent part of your church and/or Sunday School budgets.

We are asking you to make this a matter of prayer, and we urge you to share this information with your church and/or Sunday School as soon as possible. The office of field secretary is a part-time office that we would like to see continued. Our hope is that by the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists on September 11-13, 1990, we can announce to you that the position of field secretary will be filled next year and our budget met. If we are to make this announcement, the people of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination must respond IMMEDIATELY! Send your contributions to:

Mr. Elwood Hill, treasurer
P.O. Box 68
Deep Run, N.C. 28525

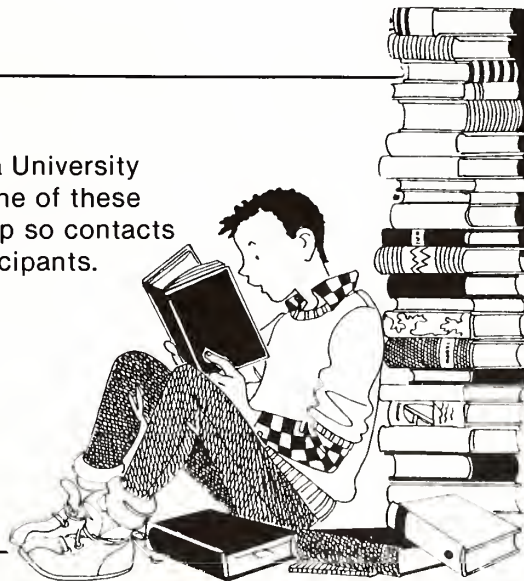
Please help us continue the work of Christ through the training and enrichment of our Sunday School workers.

Yours in Christ,

Phillip D. Boykin, *Chairman*
Sunday School Board

The student fellowship of Pitt Community College and East Carolina University students is alive and well! Congregations with students attending one of these two schools are encouraged to contact the advisors of the fellowship so contacts can be made. The fellowship provides friends and activities for participants. Times of spiritual growth and recreation are offered.

Advisors of the fellowship are the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, 107 Essex Drive, Winterville, NC 28590; 355-3264; the Rev. Doug Skinner, 804 East Cooper Street, Winterville, NC 28590; 756-0520/756-3838; and Janie Jones Sowers, Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmville, NC 27828.





Camp Vandemere

Senior Citizen's Conference

Theme: "Senior Servants for Christ"
August 27-31, 1990
Check-In: Monday, by 10 a.m.
Check-Out: Friday after breakfast



The time for the Vandemere Senior Citizens' Conference is almost here. We want to invite you to join us for an exciting time of spiritual growth, good fellowship, preaching, services, games and recreation.

We hope you will join us for the entire week. If not, we would like to have you as an overnight or day camper.

Campers should bring their linen, a blanket and pillow, a light jacket, casual clothing, walking shoes, a hat, an umbrella, towels and washcloths (at least four of each), personal hygiene items, a laundry bag, insect repellent, fishing equipment, any medication needed, and a camera and film (if desired).

Yours in Christ,
Melvin Everington
Director/Registrar

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Church and Conference _____

Age _____ Phone _____

Day-Campers Only

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
B-L-D	B-L-D	B-L-D	B-L-D

PLEASE circle days you plan to attend and meals you desire. [Day-Camper fees are: Breakfast, \$2.50; lunch, \$3; dinner, \$3.50; and overnight \$5.]

Camp fees are \$55 for the week. Registration fee is \$10, with the balance due upon arrival. Send registration forms and fees to:

Melvin Everington
Route 4, Box 306
Kinston, NC 28501
(919) 569-7671

NOTE: Please call and let us know if you have a group coming in for the day, so we can prepare extra meals.

Thank you!

Our Convention's Five-Year Theme HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

(Isaiah 39:5b)

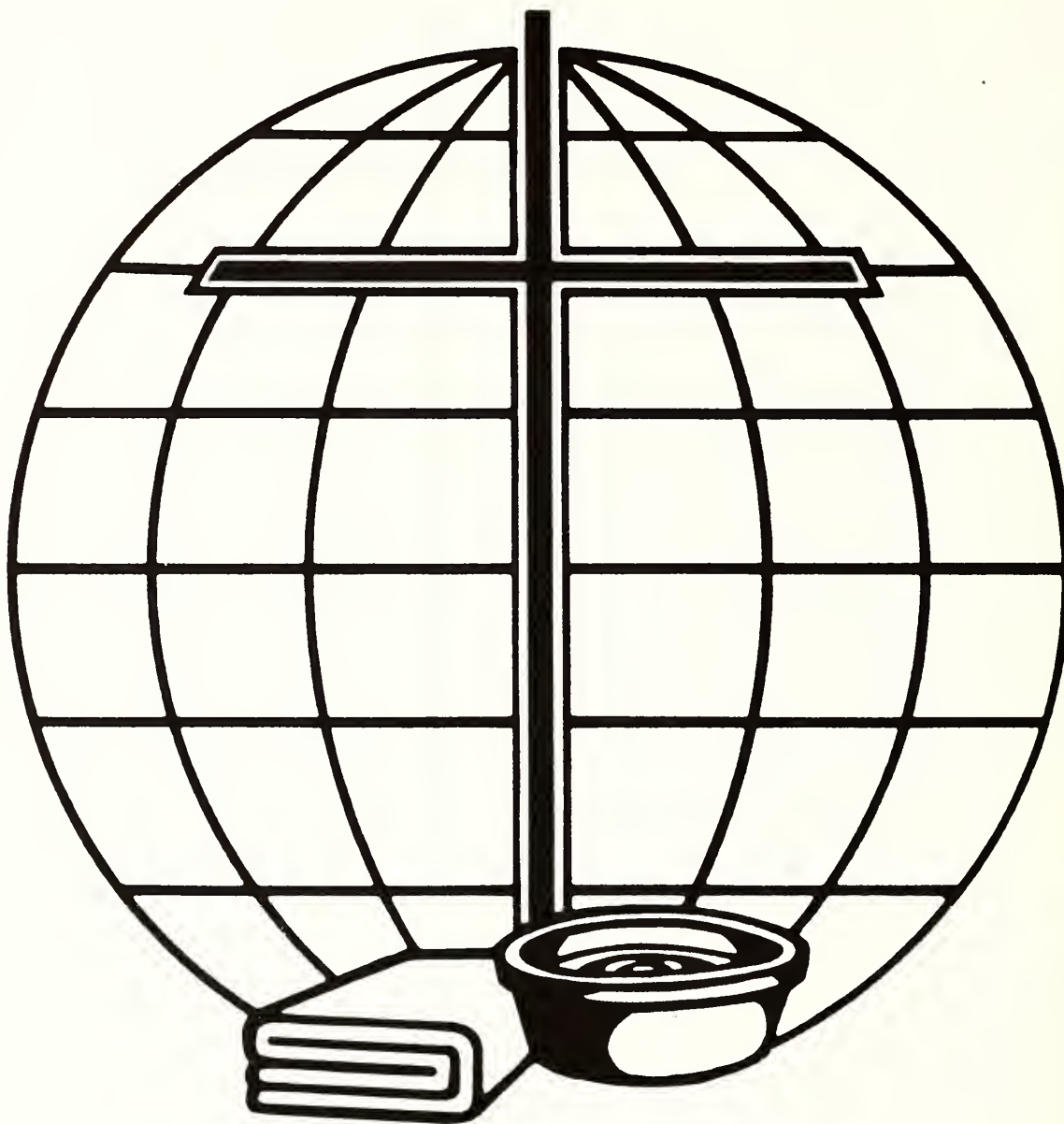
Listen—Romans 10:17; **Understand**—Luke 24:45; **Act**—James 1:22



Annual Themes

- 1990-91—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Commitment (Romans 12:1-2; Psalm 37:5)
- 1991-92—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Outreach (Acts 18:15; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 10:2; Acts 1:8)
- 1992-93—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Discipleship (Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23; 1 Peter 4:10)
- 1993-94—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Stewardship (1 Corinthians 4:2; 1 Corinthians 6:20)
- 1994-95—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Ministry (Galatians 6:10; 1 Peter 4:10-11)

This five-year theme has been adopted by the Executive Committee of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and presented to the conference moderators, ministry directors and board chairmen, commissions and boards of the Convention. It is hoped that this theme will be carried out as suggested by the Convention. Churches and ministers are urged to unite in emphasizing this theme. This fall's Convention will focus on the theme and especially on the subject of "Commitment." It is our desire that the coming year, 1990-91, will truly be a year of deep spiritual commitment to His will as Free Will Baptists. "Hear the Word of the Lord."



PREVIEW: CONVENTION '90

by De W. Eakes

Someone check the calendar!
Is it possible that ten and one half
months have already gone by
since our Seventy-seventh Con-
vention of Original Free Will Bap-
tists met? Yes, it is! The time for

"Convention '90" is only about six weeks away! We trust that our ministers and delegates are preparing to attend the Convention.

We remind you of our Convention dates. The Convention begins at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12, in Rodgers Chapel. The Evangelism Rally gets better each year and attendance is growing! There is an excellent program of special music and two challenging messages planned. The Revs. C. H. Overman and W. Scott Sowers are this year's speakers. Plan to attend!

On Wednesday, September 13, our Convention will convene at 9:30 a.m., bright and early! The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor of First Church, Greenville, and moderator of the Central Conference, will speak during the Wednesday morning session.

On Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m., our annual "Missions Rally" will be held. The Board of Foreign Missions is in charge. We urge a record attendance at this major Convention event! Be sure to bring a "prayed up" offering. The offerings received represent a critical portion of the budgets of both our Home and Foreign Missions ministries!

The final session will convene at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 14. The Rev. Bobby Carden will bring the Convention sermon in the morning worship hour. We will have congregational hymns and special music during all meetings and sessions of the Convention.

Many important items will come before the Convention during the business sessions. If you properly register as a minister, Convention officer, or church delegate you have a vote. Be sure you, as a minister, and all your church delegates are properly registered. Pre-registration is by far the best and most expeditious way to register. Each ordained

minister in good standing with his or her conference, who properly registers, is entitled to vote. One delegate per one hundred members or fraction thereof from each local congregation in good standing with its member conference, who properly registers, is eligible to vote. Convention officers who properly register are entitled to vote. We continue to dream of one hundred percent participation from our churches and ordained ministers in our annual Convention! Let us all work for this very ambitious goal! I believe we can come much closer than we have been in recent years! Our government at both the Conference and Convention levels is by delegation from the local congregations, unions and conferences. The higher our level of participation the more democratic and thus representative our Convention will become.

The preamble to our Constitution states: "We, the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, assembled in order to advance, promote, and increase the cause of Jesus Christ, do establish and ordain this constitution and these bylaws." We are much better enabled to "advance, promote and increase the cause of Christ" when we have the biggest majority of our ministers and churches through their delegates (visitors welcome!) involved directly in our Annual Convention. It will be as representative as you the people desire our Convention to be.

Remember that in order to be properly registered each delegate pays a \$5 registration fee and each minister pays a \$10 fee, as does each officer of the Convention. We urge each church to strive for the goal of a minimum contribution to the Convention of one dollar per member. Figure that on either your active or inactive roll. Some churches are already meeting this challenge.

Promote the State Convention during August which is State Convention Month. Twenty-one years ago the office of General Secretary was vacated. We urge you to place that item back in your budgets for the 1990-91 church year. One church has placed this item in the budget at \$160 per year, or \$40 per quarter. Whatever you are able to do will be appreciated and will help with the funding of this office.

The convention themes for the last five years have centered around the broad theme of "The Church, His Servant." The new themes are as follows:

1990-91 "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Commitment"

1991-92 "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Outreach"

1992-93 "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Discipleship"

1993-94 "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Stewardship"

1994-95 "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Ministry"

The theme this year is "Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Commitment." We continue to encourage you to view our various denominational ministry programs and your personal calling as an individual Christian and as a part of His Church to be a "Servant of All" in His name! To this end Christ will be glorified and the saints edified!

We urge your presence at your Convention from September 11 at 7:30 p.m. through September 13 at 4 p.m. Your presence and participation will make the Convention! Between now and Convention time pray for your Convention, all of your ministry programs and Convention auxiliaries; and pray for the officers Executive Committee, boards and committees of the Convention. Pray especially for revival, numerical and spiritual growth, cooperation and unity throughout the work of this great body of believers!

1990 STATE CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

(Board of Foreign Missions in Charge)

Date: September 12, 1990

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Place: College Hall, Mount Olive College

Speaker: Paul Grubbs

Testimony: Teresa Grubbs

Special Music: Genesis Choral Group

Stephanie Lancaster (both of Stoney Creek Church)



Teresa, Andrew, Nathaniel, Matthew, Paul

The Grubbs Family just completed a term of service in the Philippines. They are home on furlough. Plan now to attend and show your appreciation to this family that so faithfully served our Lord in the Philippines. Come and bring a large representation from your church.

Special Offering: Your special offering at this Missions Rally is vital for the continued growth of your missions programs. Begin to pray now and ask God to reveal to you what your contribution should be this year. I believe Him for the greatest offering in our history.

Remember: Your special gift to Foreign Missions at the Missions Rally must be designated. If for some reason you cannot attend the Rally, you can mail your gift and receive credit for the Rally offering.

NOTES AND QUOTES

by C. H. Overman,
General Secretary

MAJOR CONCERNS

One of our ministry directors recently asked me what seemed to be the major concerns of our people or what was on their minds. The matter was posed to me in view of my representing at our conferences, conventions, board meetings, etc., and having the opportunity to talk with many of our people in all areas.

I have been serving as General Secretary for little more than a year. During this time I have been blessed in meeting with our people. I have enjoyed the fellowship. "Getting a feel" of things has been one of my goals during this first year; therefore, in response to the question posed to me, I feel that I have heard expressed some concerns of our people, as well as some positive feelings that they also have.

So let's be positive first. It seems there is a sense of pride in the success of our ministries, particularly in respect to our total giving and support. Concerned Free Will Baptists are those who stay abreast of things. Thus, when we observe the progress of our programs we feel a sense of satisfaction in our accomplishments.

The fellowship of Free Will Baptists has always been one of our strong and positive features. Where "two or three" are gathered together, there is a true

fellowship. In the conferences and associations and board meetings, this fellowship is strong. The basis, or reason for it, is found in Jesus Christ and in the realization that we are united in one common task of sharing the message of His great and eternal love for all.

There are, however, major problems confronting us, as well as other denominations. In attending the various gatherings, we are aware of a decline in attendance from what it was a few years ago. (This certainly is a reflection of the decline in church attendance.) Today, in many instances, a church is lucky to find members who will serve as delegates, much less those who simply desire to attend to learn just what is happening. Those who do attend are thus disappointed and even discouraged because of a seemingly lack of interest. We have heard various comments relative to the drop in attendance at most of our denominational meetings.

Another major concern of many of our people, particularly our ministers, is the fact that fewer are entering the pastoral ministry in recent years. A critical shortage is developing and this is reflected in the fact that the average age of our ministers is about fifty-five. We are seeing some of our ministers leave the pastorate for other types of ministries. Some of our churches are searching for a resident, full-time minister. These churches seem to be having the greatest difficulty in securing a pastor. Our Ministers' Conference, meeting in June at Cragmont Assembly, urged each minister to pray that a greater number will answer God's call into the pastoral ministry. (To deal with the problem of why fewer are responding to His call is another matter.)

There is also a great deal of concern expressed regarding the decline in church attendance. There are churches, of course,

that are experiencing growth, but many are not. This results in a lower financial base for the support of our ministries and other responsibilities of the church.

We must address these concerns. It will require more than just talk. Workshops and seminars have their place, but they cannot solve our problems without dedication to our calling. What will the next ten years be like? Will a curtailing of our work be necessary? Will there of necessity be a return to half-time churches when a minister will be serving at least two churches? Will some of our smaller rural churches find it necessary to unite into one congregation? Let's hope and pray that such will never happen. But are we willing to work to prevent it?

PRAYER REQUESTS

In last month's "Notes and Quotes" we wrote about some of our "servants" who were faced with sickness. We would like to continue this on a regular basis. If we do, it will require a response from our people in letting us know of your prayer requests for the sick. Also remember that since this information is monthly, such requests should deal with long-term sickness.

We are happy to report that Brother James A. Evans is doing quite well after having surgery to remove a blockage. He requests your continual prayers.

If you are looking at the problem, you will continue to stumble in the darkness. But if you look to Jesus, He will lead you and guide you out of that test or trial.

"THE MOST SERIOUS TRIP OF OUR LIVES"

by Sandra K. Phelps, Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College

It is a conflict that has been raging for centuries. It is a conflict that centers on the rights of two peoples to occupy the same land. It is a conflict that, unless a solution can be found, threatens world peace.

Through the years, the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has seen many seekers of peace throw up their hands in frustration. Previous efforts at peace have often proved to be futile. Among other organizations, Pax World Foundation, based in Bethesda, Maryland, hopes to combine the efforts of many Americans in order to find peace for the war torn region.

From May 21 through June 6, a group of fifty Americans from various backgrounds toured Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and the occupied territories (the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Golan Heights). Included in the U.S. delegation were Dr. and Mrs. Burkette Raper, selected to represent colleges and universities from across America. During the trip, members of the U.S. delegation were able to meet top leaders of the Middle East, including Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, King Hussein of Jordan and cabinet level officials in Israel.

"We have not returned from a three-week pleasure cruise; we have returned from the most serious trip of our lives," Dr. Raper said during an interview. "We've seen some of the most beautiful and most sacred spots on earth, including the place where the King of peace was born, but we have also seen the most deprived conditions of human life that I have ever witnessed."

The most memorable part of the trip for Dr. Raper came when a man in Jerusalem approached



Dr. Burkette Raper is welcomed to Jerusalem by the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, William Brown.

and asked if he was from the United States. After learning that he was, the man asked Dr. Raper, "Will you please tell your government not to send any more tear gas to be used on our children? It will take them 20 years to recover from it."

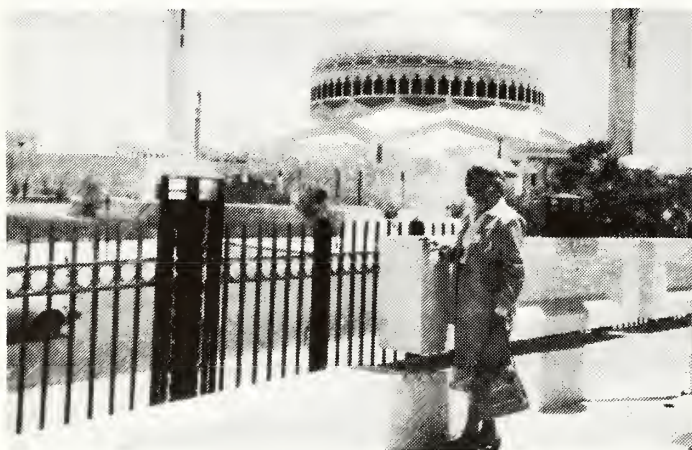
Mrs. Rose Raper said, "I remember the faces of the Palestinian children the most. These children are living in very poor conditions and yet they seem to have hope that someday they will be free."

Dr. Raper said he felt compelled to apprise the American people of the situation in the Middle East. "If the peace process does not go forward and hostilities break out, we are going to be involved. I support the establishment of Israel as a nation, but in my opinion Israel's security does not require the suppression of human rights now imposed on the Palestinians who are under Israeli military occupation."

Some violations Dr. Raper noted included the invasion and destruction of homes at will, lack of due process in courts, diversion of the water supply by Israel, and loss of human rights for the Palestinians including, arrests, beatings, and imprisonment without just cause.

According to Dr. Raper, the most feasible solutions include the United States taking the lead in the peace process and the creation of a sovereign state for the Palestinians with no further Israeli settlements in occupied territories.

"One thing is certain: unless a comprehensive peace process begins soon in the Middle East, extensive bloodshed appears on the horizon. The cradle where civilization was born is now the cradle where it must be preserved," Dr. Raper concluded.



Rose Raper stands in front of a new mosque in Amman, Jordan. This is one of the many sites the Rapers visited during their three-week tour of the Middle East.

The following won first place in the AFC Christian Writing Competition.

FAITH

by J. D. Wade, Elm Grove Church

Forgiving others in Christ
Asking God for guidance
Increasing my knowledge of God
Thanking God for everything
Hearing God's directions

Faith is walking hand in hand with my Heavenly Father, knowing that He loves me supremely. Indeed, faith is not restricted to any age group, and this 10-year-old boy lives by faith. I am growing up with faithful and loving parents. We go to Sunday School and church together; and because of this, my faith has come normally.

Fortunately for me, I have been worshipping God in faith all my life. As I try to explain faith, I begin by saying faith is the way to my salvation. In Ephesians 2:8 and 9, I read that, "By grace are we saved through faith, and not of yourselves; it is a gift of God."

To cultivate this faith, I must become acquainted with God. I must see God in everything. That is my philosophy. I see God in all of nature and in every person. I have faith that God wants to save each and everyone of us. God sees good in every person and can take even a little good, polish it, and multiply it until the individual is a new creature. Because of my faith, I follow God's directions. I serve God; I help my fellow man; I study the Scriptures; I pray earnestly; and I let go and let God mold me into a person whose life brings glory to God.

My faith leads me to support my church. I fellowship with God and God's people. Yes, I know that God is the foundation of the church. This faith of mine leads me to sing praises to God in church, at home, and everywhere. I am aware of some of my weaknesses, I have developed a very strong faith. This faith of mine has led to my humbleness before God. With God's help, I know that I can overcome any of my everyday problems. My early life experience has nourished my faith. My real mother was physically unable to care for me, and my grandfather found me the greatest of adoptive parents. They respect my real parents and have always allowed my real parents to be a part of my life. This faith in God and me has increased my belief in God. My faith pulled me through my real mother's death. Through faith, I allow God to direct my everyday activities. Together, God and I

push temptations aside. This ever-growing faith of mine keeps me trying to be better today than I was yesterday. At this early age, I'm building my life on faith and am daily making my life a witness unto God.

Loving others is a part of my Christian faith. God uses me to share His love with family, church friends, classmates, and all other acquaintances. Through faith I can love people just as they are. The commandments direct us to "love others as yourself." Then there's the Scripture that says, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Living by these Scriptures I can be a true witness to God. Then all will be surprised at what God is doing through me. This strong faith keeps me away from drugs and alcohol. It makes me aware of the evil in society and gives me the strength to walk away from the temptation.

I show my faith by serving my church with my prayers, my presence, my gifts, and my witnessing for my Heavenly Father. These kinds of services bring joy and strength. My faith uplifts me, and my problems disappear. The Spirit of God within is my source of faith. I express my faith in God by expressing faith in myself and others. My faith in Jesus allows me to draw from Him enthusiasm for living. This faith allows His spirit to fill my life. Together God and I make a good team. My faith allows me to be strong and to let nothing deter, detour, distract, depress, or defeat me. Belief in Jesus Christ allows me to put on the shield of God and face life boldly. My faith is enriched at the Christian school that I attend. Here I memorize Scriptures and am directed to walk a closer walk with God.

Faith keeps God's love flowing through me and through others. Believing that Jesus Christ died on the Cross for my sins and that He is the way of my salvation keeps the rose of faith blooming in my life for all the world to see. I am always aware that the Bible teaches me to "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all things shall be added unto you."

Practicing my faith in God helps me to "commit thy way unto Him, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." Through faith, I gain inner peace, greater understanding, and direction for my life. Because of my faith, God is able to fill my soul with His Word. I worship and praise Him, and I wait in His presence. Truly, my faith lets me live in the Spirit, live in His guidance; follow His teaching; and move ahead in the work of my Lord. My faithful Christian living goes with me everywhere: at church, at home, at school, and at all places. Anywhere that God cannot go with me, I will not go!



CHURCH GROWTH AND INVOLVEMENT

by James M. Daily, DMin., Pastor
Ayden Christian Church (DOC)
Ayden, NC 28513

“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn” (Ben Franklin).

Church growth seems to be the “in” word in churches today. That growth might be in the area of the spiritual, but more likely, our real desire is that our churches will grow numerically. After all, it was our Lord who mandated that we “Go, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you . . .” (Matthew 28:19-20, *KJV*).

The Book of Acts writes of the Lord adding “to their number day by day those who were being saved” (Acts 2:47b, *RSV*). Earlier, in the 41st verse, a number of “about three thousand souls” is mentioned. So, we are on solid biblical ground when we pursue the idea of church growth.

However, most of us know so many who have been “saved” only to be “lost” too quickly. Why is that? It is my premise that there are two basic

reasons. The first is that these newly saved are not involved in the full life of the church. The second is that they become so heavily involved that they soon suffer burnout and are provided no relief.

This thesis is to discuss the first reason for losing folks. My experience comes from both sides of the ministry fence: laity and full-time pastor. I have seen it time and time again: someone has been playing the piano for thirty-some years and she’s not about to surrender her sacred space at the keyboard to some young and inexperienced teenager. You know the rest of the story. That teenager becomes discouraged for she learned, or so she thought, that she had been given a special gift by God and that she should use it. How disappointing, how discouraging—how awful—to deny her the use of that talent.

I am acquainted with a church which had come into its membership some very talented young people; but the only time those talented

folks were given an opportunity to serve their Lord with the talents He had given them was on Youth Sunday—one single day a year! Oh, maybe they could be used a little around Christmas time—but on a regular basis? Not on your life, buster!

It is my belief that one of the reasons for the growth of my own church is that an intentional and continuing effort is made at involving those people who want to be involved *and* providing a mechanism by which those involved can find some quick relief from duties which, at times, can become burdensome. Perhaps the age of the children of those involved will make a difference; perhaps an illness hinders continued service; perhaps someone finds they simply cannot continue, that what they hoped they could do became too much, etc.

A recent count of persons involved in my congregation numbers almost eighty every month. This seems rather remarkable when our total church membership is a little less than 300 and average worship attendance is about 150. And that almost eighty becomes more than eighty when we move from month to month to more like 100. But, you might ask, how can that be? There just aren't that many jobs in our small church. No, there weren't in our church seven years ago either.

However, I began to see many places that lay ministers could be used and used well. We, like many Protestant churches, believe in the priesthood of all believers. Too often, however, we ministers (and some members of the congregation) act as if we're the only ones who can do things. The pulpit becomes our sacred space, just as the piano keyboard did for the woman mentioned earlier. But I found that there were many who could give the children's minute just as effectively as I could (many better), and that responsibility is now shared with twelve different folks.

Four greeters per Sunday are used: two at each door. A worship leader or lay reader (liturgist) is used to lead the responsive reading and to read the morning Scripture. An acolyte (candlelighter) is used from among the children. Different folks are used in the infant and toddler nurseries both during the church school hour and morning worship. Four different folks are also used for the children's church (it has two units according to age/group). Communion to shut-ins and the closing of the church are separate responsibilities. By having the Lord's Supper each Lord's Day, we involve four different deacons/deaconesses and two elders every other Sunday. The choir is involved as are the pianist and organist, and, of course, teachers for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.



I could go on, but you get the picture. The important thing is to believe that many people in our congregations have been given talents and that it is our responsibility as lay leaders and pastors to assure they are given the opportunity to involve themselves and use those talents.

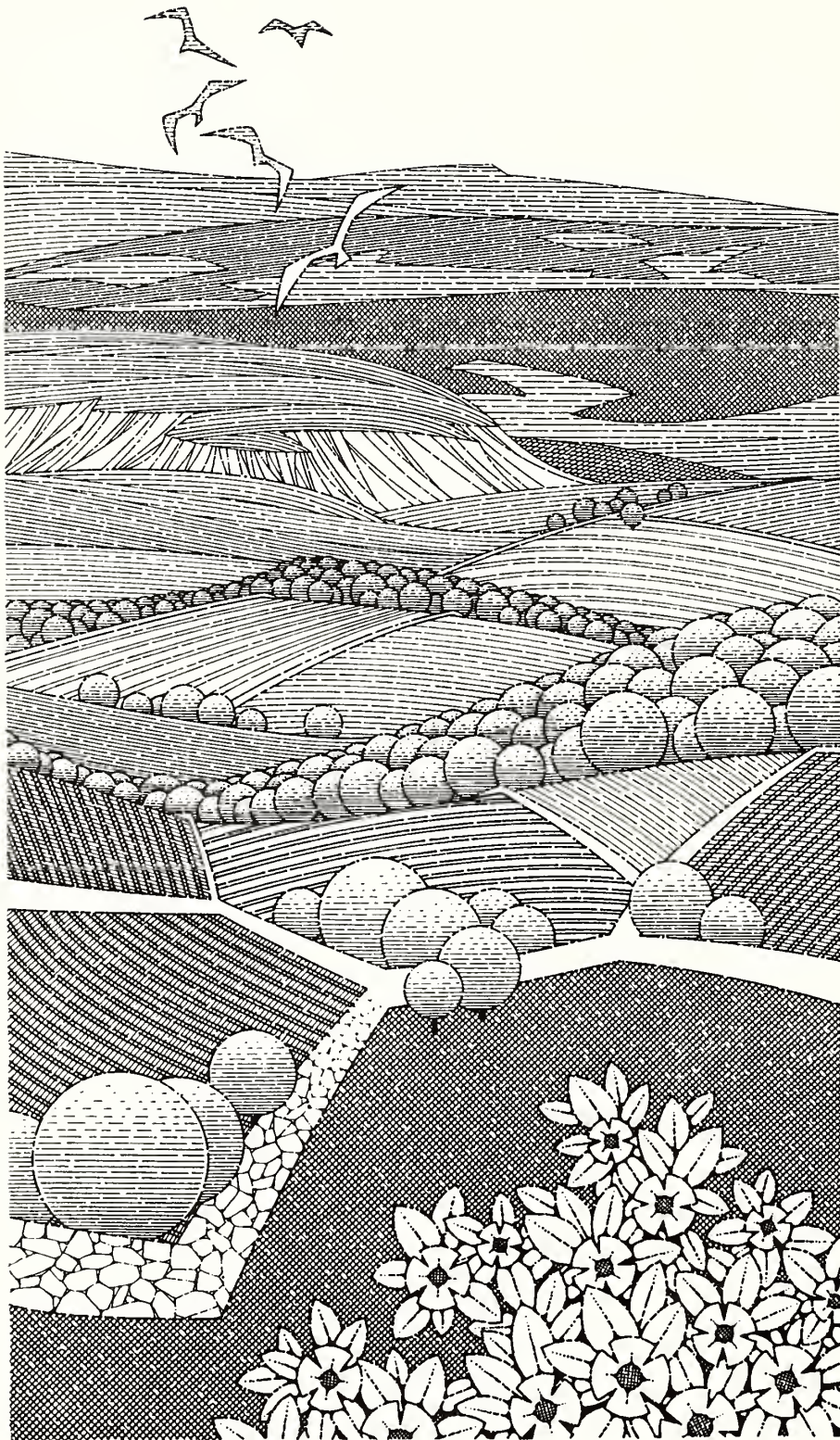
But how does one find out who will perform these various tasks? First, when someone places membership in our church they are asked to fill out a membership profile. This lists about everything a lay person can do. They indicate if they've had experience and if they're interested in serving. Next, a list of volunteer activities is printed in the church newsletter periodically that informs folks of what duties are available. They are then encouraged to place their name and the job(s) they're interested in on a paper and place it in the offering tray or leave it at the church office. This information is passed to the person responsible for scheduling different activities and the volunteers' names are then placed on the volunteer list.

Further, to make the task easier, pamphlets are provided describing how certain things are to be done. In most cases, a training session is held or on-the-job training is provided by an experienced lay person.

There is no church, no matter how large or small, that could not expand the involvement of its people. But while doing that, remember to be sensitive to providing relief by the use of substitutes or replacements.

I attribute our growth in Sunday School attendance from 38 to 76, worship attendance from 92 to 150, and a doubling of our income to the involvements mentioned.

Note: Should the reader be interested in receiving copies of the personnel inventory and other samples of brochures referred to, please send \$2 to Dr. James M. Daily, Ayden Christian Church, Box 488, Ayden, NC 28513. (The \$2 charge is for postage, printing and handling costs.)



THE TWO DAISIES

Scripture: Philippians 4:11-13

by James E. Taylor

There was once a meadow. It was not a large meadow, but it was full of clover and grass. Over on the south end of the edge of the wood, two daisies sprang up one early spring morning. As the days began to get warmer, the daisies grew.

Being very close together, the young daisies became good friends. They talked about many things. But mostly they talked about their ambition, which was the same as all daisies. They hoped that when they were grown some human would come by and pluck them up to carry home. Then they would

make some room bright with their beauty. They talked and dreamed of the day their ambition would be realized.

As the two daisies grew, a noticeable difference began to take place. One daisy was big, with well developed petals, a strong green stem and a clear bright color. The other daisy was not as big. Her petals were not as developed, her color was somewhat paler and her stem was bent some. The two daisies tried not to notice the differences but they became very pronounced as they grew. The two daisies knew that in order for them to fulfill their greatest ambition, they would have to be almost perfect.

The little daisy began to feel sorry for herself as she realized her ambition might not be fulfilled. But they talked and dreamed anyway about how wonderful it was going to be when they would be plucked up and carried to someone's home and placed in a vase and put on a mantle or in a bedroom and give forth their beauty. They talked about how wonderful it would be for people to tell them how pretty they were and how much brightness the two daisies brought to the house. Oh, but the two daisies had wonderful hopes and dreams. But the little daisy was always a little sad because she was not as big and pretty as her friend.

The two daisies had many friends: the butterflies, the bees and the robins. Each morning they would all stop by and talk to the daisies. Even though the butterflies, the bees and the robins could tell a difference in the two daisies, they never let it enter in their conversations. They all thought both daisies were beautiful.

One day toward the late afternoon as the daisies were talking, they saw some little boys walking by. One of the boys noticed the two daisies and ran over to look. "My what a beautiful flower," said the little boy. "I must take it home to my Mother!" he exclaimed. And with a quick sweep of his hand the big daisy was gone—and so was the little boy.

The little daisy was heartbroken. She was a failure. She now had no reason to exist. She realized she would never fulfill her ambition. She began to cry. All night she cried and cried. As the sun came up the next morning she did not even bother to unfurl her petals to meet the warmth of the sun. She did not try to straighten up on her crooked little stem; she would not even turn to face the sun.

Very soon one of the butterflies came flitting by. The butterfly stopped and said, "I see you are all alone." And looking closer, he saw the little daisy crying. "Oh my! What is wrong?" asked the butterfly.

"I have nothing to live for," cried the little daisy. "I will never make anyone's house beautiful," she said through her tears.

"Well, maybe not, but you are still here for me to see and I think you are beautiful," said the butterfly. "I must be going but please cheer up." And with that the butterfly danced off.

Shortly afterward along came a bee. "How are you this fine morning?" asked the bee. "And where is your friend?" he inquired.

"Oh, the big daisy has been taken to someone's home and has become a very successful daisy. I am left here alone. I shall never be a success. I will never be able to make anyone's home beautiful!" cried the little daisy.

"I am so sorry you feel this way," said the bee, "but you must not feel pity for yourself. You are quite lovely," he said. "I must be off to work but I do hope you feel better soon." And with this he buzzed off on his way.

It was still quite early in the morning when the robin appeared. She wheeled and dipped in the sky and was having such a good time. Then she spotted the little lonesome daisy. She landed beside the little daisy and noticed the daisy was crying.

"Why, what in the world is the matter?" asked the robin.

"Yesterday the big daisy was plucked up and by now is in a vase radiating beauty in someone's home, and I am still here and will never brighten anyone's home," sobbed the daisy.

"Oh, but you are so wrong?" said the robin. "Sure you may not be the biggest or have the straightest stem or the brightest colors, but you are still beautiful. And, yes, you do brighten a home even now. You brighten my home because my home is in the sky and in this meadow. I love to see you standing here each morning. And the bees and the butterflies live here also. You brighten their home too. Without you our little meadow would not be nearly as pretty. Please cheer up, just think how sad we would be if you were not here," said the robin.

The little daisy began to think. "Yes, I do live here. This is my house and the house of the robins and the bees and butterflies. And I do make our home pretty!" The more she thought about it, the more she realized that to be successful all she had to do was be herself. With these thoughts, she began to unfurl her petals and she once again enjoyed the warmth of the sun as it shone brightly. The morning dew was most pleasant and she straightened up on her crooked stem. And she exclaimed, "How wonderful it is that I can make this huge earth beautiful—if I only use all that God has given me!"

And with this thought she became a very beautiful daisy in her sight and in the sight of her friends.

Mr. James E. Taylor works as a license examiner for the North Carolina Highway Patrol. He is a member of King's Cross Roads Church, Farmville, NC.

OVERCOMING THE ROADBLOCKS: NAVAJOS TRANSLATE THE BIBLE

by Mark Shaffer

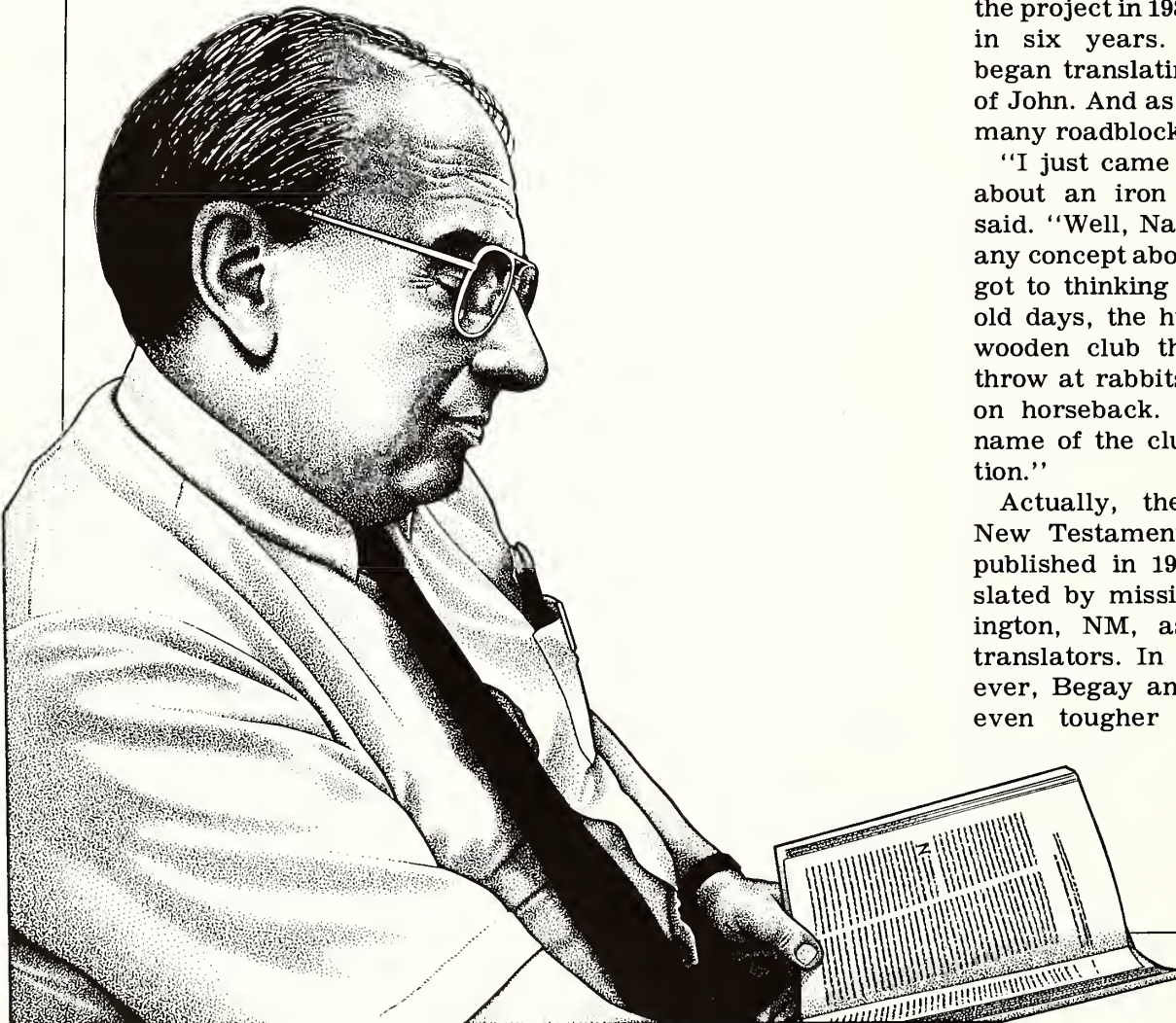
Translating the Bible is never an easy task, and a complex language like Navajo makes it all the more difficult. So for the past six years two Navajos, the Rev. Tim Begay and his friend, Joe Wilson, a lay pastor, have given their brains a marathon workout as they've worked to translate parts of the Bible into Navajo.

The American Bible Society supports their work and recently published their translation of the Gospel of Mark, titled "Mark Bik'ehgo Hane' Ya'at'eehii."

Begay works on the project full-time and Wilson in the summers. The translation task was daunting, "much like trying to mix vinegar with water," they say. Although much revision remains to be done, Begay and Wilson have translated 22 books of the New Testament since beginning the project in 1984. That's 22 books in six years. Begay recently began translating the Revelation of John. And as usual, there were many roadblocks.

"I just came across a passage about an iron scepter," Begay said. "Well, Navajo doesn't have any concept about a scepter. But I got to thinking about how in the old days, the hunters had a big, wooden club they would use to throw at rabbits while they were on horseback. So, we used the name of the club in our translation."

Actually, the first complete New Testament in Navajo was published in 1956. It was translated by missionaries in Farmington, NM, assisted by tribal translators. In some ways, however, Begay and Wilson face an even tougher task. They are



trying to turn the words of the Bible into common-language Navajo. That also involves translating many of the dated Navajo words from the earlier Bible into a simpler form.

"It's kind of like trying to make our own version of 'Good News for Modern Man,' " Begay said.

Defining God in Navajo Terms

The first problem the translators faced, Begay noted, was trying to define God.

Traditional Navajo religion teaches that the Navajo people, or 'Dine,' as they call themselves, emerged from beneath the earth to live among four peaks in what is now the Four Corners area of northeastern Arizona, northwestern New Mexico, southern Utah and southwestern Colorado.

For centuries, Navajos have conducted special ceremonies for healing, puberty rites and protection from evil spirits. They also have paid homage to animals, the weather and the reservation's towering, multi-colored rock formations. But a unifying theme like God was an alien concept, Begay said.

"In all the references to the Kingdom of God, we had trouble coming up with anything satisfying. Finally, we came up with a Navajo expression which means literally, 'there is a God that rules life' and we've stayed with that," Begay said.

That's only one of many difficulties, says Fern Cole, a spokesperson for the Navajo Lutheran Mission located in Rock Point, AR, where Wilson is based. Many problems are caused by single English words which express a concept unknown to the Navajos.

"For example, there's a passage in Mark where Jesus tells Peter that He is going to die. Peter responds that he won't let it happen. Then, Jesus scolds Peter and says that he doesn't have the power to make such determina-

tions," Cole said.

Everything went smoothly in the Navajo translation until the word "scolds" was encountered. "In the Navajo Way, two adults generally do not scold one another," Cole said. It required a great deal of creativity to resolve the problem.

"There was also a problem in trying to convey what was meant where the Gospels say that Jesus went to a lonely place to pray," Cole said. "In Navajo, you can't speak of a place as lonely. So, Wilson translated that part to read 'Jesus went to a place in which there was no sound and no people.' "

Between them, Begay and Wilson have translated almost all of the New Testament into common-language Navajo except for the Books of Hebrews, Revelation, Romans and 3 John. They hope to have the New Testament completed within a year. Thus far, only the Gospel of Mark has been printed by the American Bible Society for use in the hundreds of small, rural churches of all denominations on the three-state reservation.

To speakers of English, a typical verse translation strikes few chords of familiarity. The Navajo language is so difficult that it was used to confound the Japanese military during World War II. The Japanese were never able to make heads or tails out of radio messages sent by Navajo Code Talkers, who played a huge role in the Allied Victory.

Take Mark 14:27, a special verse to traditional Navajos because of their reliance on sheep for food and to provide wool for rug weaving. In English, the verse reads, "And Jesus said to them, 'You will all fall away; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the shepherd will be scattered." ' "

In Navajo, the same verse reads, "Ako Jesus ahalni, 'T'aa'anoltso shits'aa' yoo';

ahidoolwol, haala, bee ak'e'ashchiigo ani, 'Diyin God na'nilkaadii yidiyolheel, ako dibehee da'nilt's'aa'goo altso taidoojah.' "

Begay said Colossians was the most difficult book he has translated thus far.

"There are places in the first two chapters, where Paul goes on and on without a break, without a period. There are just more and more phrases. I thought I was never going to get through with that book," Begay said.

The Road to Translation

The 34-year-old Begay came from a traditional Navajo background while living in the small community of Pinyon in northeastern Arizona. He grew up herding sheep and cattle and listening to highly descriptive oral legends about the wily coyote and other facets of Navajo life.

"My grandfather was a medicine man," Begay said, referring to an elderly religious leader who gathers herbs to cure various ailments and performs blessings at ceremonies.

"But both of my parents are Christians. So, I didn't grow up with the traditional (Navajo) religion," Begay said.

Instead, Begay took a liking to the Bible. After graduating from high school in Phoenix, he went to Circleville (Ohio) Bible College, where he graduated four years later.

Begay then studied language at Ohio State University while serving as associate pastor at a church in north Columbus. But his yearning to return to the Navajo reservation was strong.

"There was an opening to become a pastor at a church near Pinyon so I took it," Begay said. "At first, I thought I had forgotten my Navajo and I would only preach in English. But the people encouraged me and it started coming to me. It's a good thing it did, given what I'm doing now."



THE JOY OF REPENTANCE

Dr. K. David Hines
Mount Olive College

"Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel' " (Mark 1:14-15).

I recently ran across a statement that captured my attention. Allow me to share it with you:

Repentance springs from grace. God's goodness is the only power that can really lead a man to repentance (Jeremias, 157).

For a moment, compare Jesus' preaching with that of John the Baptist. Both call for their listeners to repent—but they did so for different reasons. John calls for people to repent due to "fear at the threat of judgment" (157). Jesus offers a different motive. He offers gospel—good news! Jesus challenges individuals to respond to the unfathomable goodness of God. And you know what happens? People do respond. People like Zacchaeus. People like you and me.

It seems to me that this concept of relating repentance to good news has serious implications for evangelism. I trust that you will agree that God wants to see lost persons saved. We also recognize that coming to Christ involves a change (repentance). What we often don't do very effectively is link repentance to the good news of God's love and grace.

One of the most beautiful stories of repentance in the Bible is the parable of the Prodigal Son. The son, after wasting everything he had, then admits his guilt and goes home. He is met by a loving, forgiving father who welcomes him without question and restores him.

I stand convinced that the evangelistic ministry of the Free Will Baptist Church would be transformed by remembering and declaring that the gospel is good news. I do not mean to minimize the reality of judgment nor the seriousness of sin. But the gospel is that Jesus Christ has won the victory. So a call to repentance is a call to new life, a call to joy.

Preachers, let's take a look at our preaching. Do we give our people a steady diet of negative, judgmental preaching? If so we are carrying on the tradition of John the Baptist instead of Jesus Christ! Kenon Callahan reminds us:

The preacher who dwells week after week on judgment, sin, and law as the Bible's primary themes is telling only part of the message. Law is strong, grace is stronger. Christians, both clergy and laity, must grasp once again the ringing message of the New Testament that hope is stronger than memory, that the open tomb is stronger than the bloody cross, that the risen Lord is stronger than the dead Jesus (Callahan, 28).

You've probably heard the story of the boy who got his lines a little mixed up in the Christmas play when he said to the shepherds, "Man, oh man, have I got good news for you!" We do have good news. God has showed His love through the death of Jesus Christ. God proved His power in the Resurrection. Repent! Believe the gospel!

Callahan, Kennon L. *Twelve Keys to an Effective Church*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1983.

Jeremias, Joachim. *New Testament Theology: The Proclamation of Jesus*. Trans. John Bowden. New York: Scribner's, 1971.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS HEAR CRIES OF BROKEN-HOME TEENS

Teens whose parents separate or divorce feel vulnerable, rootless. When homes are split, according to counselor James Hilt, Sunday School teachers and youth leaders must be prepared to hear and respond to four cries of broken-home teens.

1. *"If I were only good enough or responsible enough, Mom and Dad wouldn't have split."* Adult leaders need to show the teen that

this is false guilt. The responsibility for the separation or divorce rests squarely on the parents. The teen's guilt is counterfeit, guilt which God does not want him or her to suffer.

"If their false guilt is not resolved," cautions Hilt, author of *How to Have a Better Relationship with Anybody* (Moody), "teens may punish themselves consciously or unconsciously by

doing drugs or alcohol, withdrawing, or even trying suicide to 'atone.' "

2. *"Please let me cry."* The multiple losses of a ruptured home cause a teen to grieve. Let him or her know that's healthy and it will take time. Teachers should encourage the grieving teen to draw support from them. This "venting," which the psalmists repeatedly did with the Lord, helps release pain and aids in the "grief work" process.

3. *"I hate them."* The teen may fixate on all the harm and loss that has come to him or her and will replay the painful events as one would play records. This is natural for a while, but eventually, the needle must be taken off.

The teen needs to begin forgiving those who hurt him or her. This may be the most difficult thing the young person has ever done. God can give the power to accept and forgive each person toward whom he or she is bitter.

At the same time, the teen needs to see that accepting circumstances does not mean having to count the sources of trouble as good. The bitter disputes and severance of marriage are never good. Acceptance is not the same as approval.

4. *"I'm no good."* Often teens' self-esteem plummets. Caring Sunday School teachers can help raise it again. Find ways to affirm teens. Help them keep their heads above water emotionally, until feelings of God-given value and personhood begin to stir inside them once more.

"Statistically, the tragedies of separation and divorce may seem overwhelming," said Hilt. "But teachers and youth leaders can wonderfully touch some of the victims of this epidemic. And they will never forget your help."

David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 North Grove, Elgin, IL 60120.

BEATITUDES FOR A CHOIR



*by John Clayton
East Canaan, Connecticut*

... And, seeing the long Church Year before them, and knowing the awesome role that music must play in the worship services that lay ahead, the Choir Director called together the singers and spake to them, saying:

BLESSED are the poor in spirit, those who are willing to blend their voices into a harmonious ensemble, for theirs is the music of Heaven.

BLESSED are they that mourn when forced to miss rehearsal, but call to inform the Director of their anticipated absence, for in these faithful few shall the Director find comfort.

BLESSED are the meek, who submit themselves to following the Director, for they shall merit great worth.

BLESSED are they which do hunger and thirst after rehearsals are concluded, bringing with them neither gum nor goodies, for they shall be filled with music.

BLESSED are the merciful, who take pity on the music's composer, careful to read the original notes, follow the original time, proclaim resoundingly the original message, for they shall obtain mercy from discriminating critics.

BLESSED are the pure in pitch, in tone, in enunciation, for their voices shall blend in moving harmonies, enabling others to envision God.

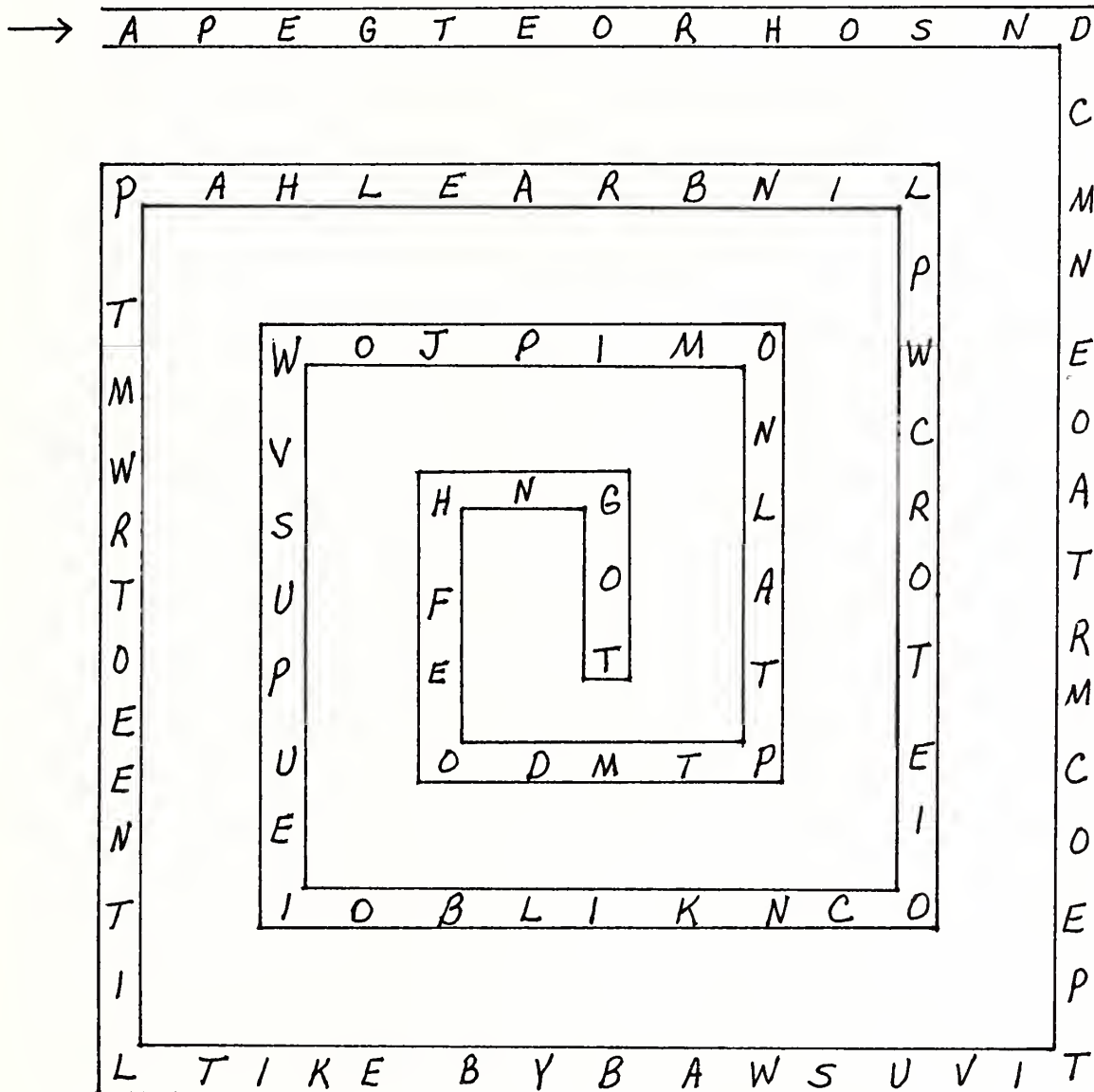
BLESSED are the music-makers, for they shall be called heralders of God.

BLESSED are ye singers when the Director shall seem to persecute you for the sake of the final rendition; be patient and rejoice, for of such perfection is the music of Heaven.

BLESSED are ye when other choirs shall revile you, and turn their ears from you, and say all manner of evil against you jealously. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heavenly satisfaction that you have sung faithfully and well—for so disparaged they the great singers who were before you . . . perhaps even that Bethlehem choir of angel voices!

Reprinted from *Evangelical Beacon*, May 15, 1983.

Start at the arrow, using **A** as the first letter, and then use every third letter to find a bit of wisdom from Ecclesiastes 7:1 that is of great value to each of us. Write the answer on the line below.



MEETING SCHEDULED

The annual meeting of the membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, NC, on Tuesday, September 4, at 10 a.m., for the purpose of electing the appropriate number of Directors, receiving reports from officers, and transacting such business as may properly come before the meeting.

The members of Sidney Church cordially invite you to participate in the Centennial Celebration of their founding.

The celebration will begin with a reception on Saturday, August 25, 1990, from 5-7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

The celebration will continue on Sunday, August 26, beginning with Sunday School at 10 a.m. The morning worship service will begin at 11, with dinner on the grounds at 12. A memorial service and singspiration will follow outside.

Please plan to be a part of this wonderful celebration in the Lord.



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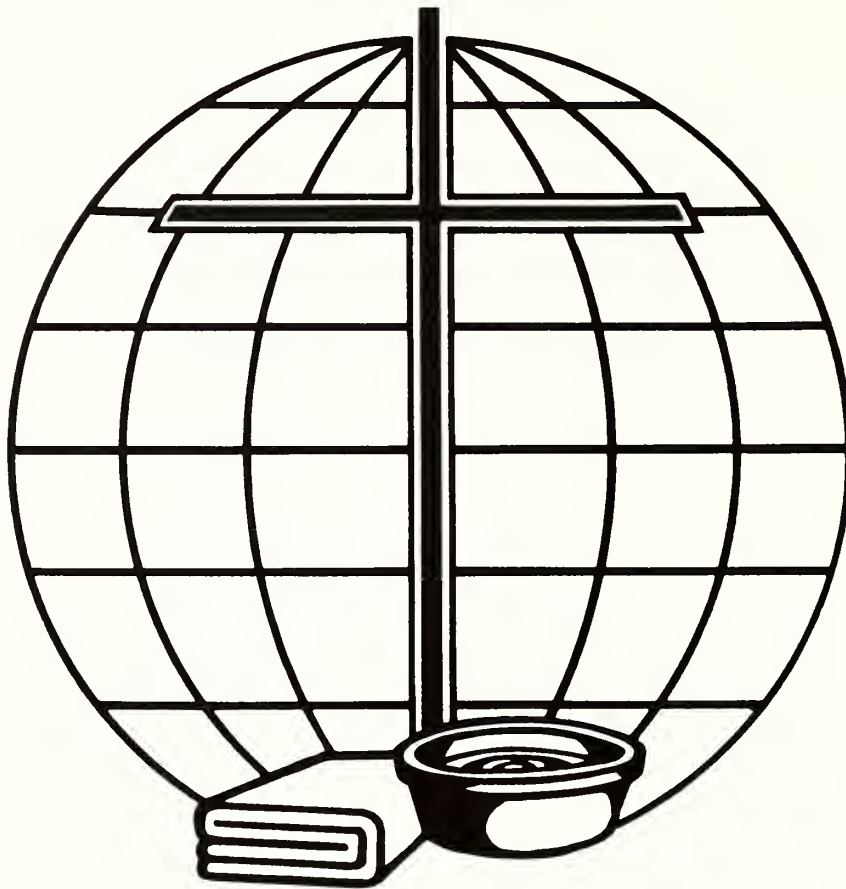


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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

SEPTEMBER 1990



Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Notes and Quotes

24

The Church in a Secular Society

25

The Church and the Life Stages of Its Families

28

Children's Corner

31

September 1990

Vol. 105

No. 9

Edited and published monthly by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 2094-4000).

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors: Darrell Horne, President; Carroll Hawkins, Vice President; Gaye Renfrow, Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Assistant Secretary; Carlee Stallard, Jack Thompson, W. S. Burns, Gary Burbage, Leon Harris; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director**; Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature**.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



JOE ROLLINS DAY

The Rev. Henry Armstrong and the membership of Pleasant Hill Church, Pikeville, declared and celebrated July 15 as "Joe Rollins Day." Mr. Armstrong commented on Mr. Rollins' faithfulness to his church and Sunday School. Mrs. Zora Bunn, Bobby Bunn, Sabra Pittman and Lloyd Rollins, his brother, spoke concerning Mr. Rollins' faithfulness not only to his church, but of his being there when he was needed in a family crisis. His daughters, Becky Hare and Alison Rollins, sang "He Hideth My Soul," which is his favorite song. Jimmy Mitchell presented him with a plaque for serving as Sunday School Superintendent of Pleasant Hill for 23 years. This was followed by lunch in the fellowship hall, catered by Wilber's Barbecue.

After lunch, there was a roast at which Bonnie Moore, Susan Smith, Jimmy Mitchell, Bill Lynch, Jay R. Hare (his son-in-law), Rachel Moore (his sister) and Willie Rollins (his brother) all delivered humorous comments.

The day concluded with Mr. Rollins thanking the people for all they had done that day and for giving their support during the time he served as superintendent.

EASTERN WOMEN TO MEET

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held with Rock of Zion Church, Grantsboro, on Thursday, September 20, 1990. Registration begins at 9:30. The theme is "Anchored in His Love," with the theme verse Ephesians 3:17, 19b: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love . . . might be filled with all the fulness of God."

UNION MEETING SCHEDULED

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene with Riverside Church, Route 1, Princeton, NC, Johnston County, September 29, 1990. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn—Congregation
- Devotions, the Rev. Al Markuson
- Welcome, Host Church
- Response, Shady Grove Church
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
- Recognition of Visitors

- Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union
- Appointment of Committees
- Roll Call of Churches
- Report of Denominational Enterprises
- Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
- Offering and Offertory Prayer
- Special Music, Host Church
- Message, the Rev. Donald Venable
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- Benediction and Adjournment

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet with Johnston Union Church on Saturday, September 1. All youth and their sponsors are encouraged to attend. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

**GUM SWAMP PASTOR
RECEIVES
DOCTORAL DEGREE**

The Rev. Thomas M. Parrish, who is pastor of Gum Swamp Church in Greenville, NC, was graduated from Bethany Theological Seminary, Dothan, Alabama, on June 7, 1990, with a Doctor of Ministry degree. Dr. Parrish is the son of Ethel D. Parrish of Morven and is a native of Wadesboro, NC. In addition to his studies at Bethany Seminary, Dr. Parrish completed undergraduate studies at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, MS, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in religious education; graduate studies at Georgia Southern College, Statesboro, GA, with a Master of Education degree in psychometry and an education specialist degree in school psychology; and additional postgraduate studies in counseling and vocational school psychology at Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, VA. He is currently a bivocational minister who also works as a school psychologist for Wilson County Schools.

(Turn the Page)

Dr. Parrish came to Gum Swamp Church as pastor in June 1989. He is a veteran pastor with thirty years in the ministry, most of which has been in a bivocational status. He has served several churches whose budget would not allow for a full-time pastor while serving in the US Army for twenty years and in Anson and Wilson Counties as a school psychologist for the past thirteen years. He is married to Mary Curtis Parrish, formerly of Chesterfield, SC, who was honored at his graduation with a P.H.T. (putting husbands through) degree by Bethany Seminary. Dr. Parrish has three sons: the Rev. Tony Parrish who is pastor of Pleasant Hill Church near Greenville, NC; the Rev. David Parrish who is pastor of Bethany Church in Winterville, NC; and Bill Parrish who resides in Raleigh, NC.

ALBEMARLE UNION TO MEET

The Albemarle Union Meeting has been scheduled for September 29 at Belhaven Church. The day's program is as follows:

OPENING SESSION

- 10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Robert May
- 10:10—Welcome, the Rev. W. L. Brickhouse
 - Response, the Rev. James Owens
- 10:15—The Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
- 10:20—Roll Call, Ministers
 - Recognition of Visiting Ministers
 - Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
 - Announcements
 - Prayer Time
 - Two Testimonies

BUSINESS SESSION

- 10:40—Report of Children's Home, via literature
 - Report of Mount Olive College, via literature
 - Report of FWB Press, via literature
 - Report of Missions: Home and Foreign, via literature
 - Report of Cragmont, via literature
 - Report of Retirement Homes, via literature
- 10:50—Report of Treasurer
 - Old and New Business
 - Announcements of Next Union
- 11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

- 11:00—Hymn
- 11:20—Special Music, Host Church
- 11:25—Message, the Rev. Joe Dunlop
 - Benediction
 - Adjournment and Lunch

A PEOPLE OF VISION

*submitted by the Rev. Harold Swinson,
pastor*

*Where there is no vision the people
perish (Proverbs 28:13).*

On January 8, 1989, Harmony Original Free Will Baptist Church came into being, with a dedication service in which the members and guests came together in the sanctuary of what had been Calvary Church.

Harmony began with much prayer and hard work of the congregations of Calvary and Fellowship Churches. They took a great step in faith that God would see them through all the difficult times as well as work out all the problems that seemed to arise daily.

What vision did these people have? What did they see that no one else had been able to see? And where did they seem to be going? They were able to look beyond what they presently had and see that God had greater things in store for them as well as our denomination. They saw that we

could build and grow together instead of apart. As these people prayed and worked towards this goal, I was reminded of a quote from a message at the State Convention of 1983 by W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. The title of his message was "A Prayer for Original Free Will Baptists," in which he made this statement and I quote:

We as Christians must ask ourselves: What are we doing in this world? Why are we here? What is our calling? We need to remember that the very meaning of the word "church" is "called out." The church is made up of those who have responded to God's call. Our view of the church, of the world and of our lives is as big as our vision of God who called us. How big is our world? Do we see it as our community? Our country? Our state? . . . The answer depends upon how big we believe God is.

These people believed that God was big enough to solve all the problems which might arise in this situation and that they could reach more people for Christ than ever before. They grew and took inventory of how big God could be. Their vision of how big their community was and is was improved. They were able to see the world as a different place to live, work, and worship as they began to help those around the church who were in need. The county and state began to once again be a place



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

where they could witness for Christ as before. The love they wished to share with those around them began to bud and grow, and people found the joy of serving the Lord.

With much love to those who have served as past pastors and past members, these people chose to give up the things which had so much meaning to them and grow in faith as never before. They did not wish to destroy either of these churches but to hold in memory all the things of the past. This growth did not take away from the history of these two great congregations nor did it remove all the memories of these two great churches from our denomination; but it did add to the life of this church. Much is owed to the pastors and members of Calvary and Fellowship for what has been accomplished. Had it not been for the hard work on behalf of these people, all the work to get Harmony on its feet would not have been completed.

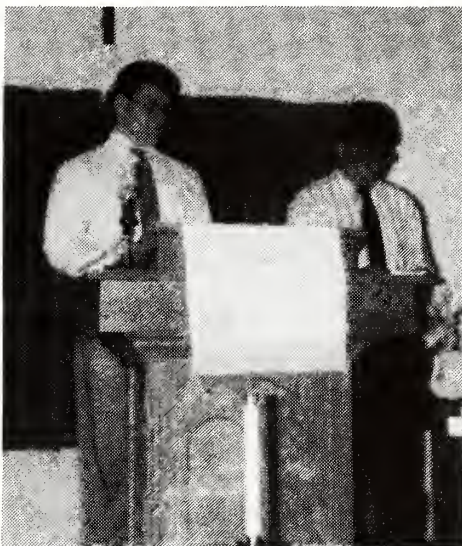
The vision is great and the potential of Harmony is tremendous. In the past year, we have been able to reach former members of these congregations with the hope of getting most of them back into church. Programs have been placed into operation to help the church grow. Much has been done for the appearance of the building both inside and outside by the efforts of everyone. Growth in the number of members has increased and fellowship has added to the feelings of these people. We like to believe that our vision of what God can do and will do is as great as the vision of the people who worked so hard before to make this church great, that this vision will cause us to reach out to those around us as well as to those outside our community as never before.

Let us as Free Will Baptists once again have a vision that

takes us to the fields to serve God and witness to our neighbor as Christ would have us serve Him. Help us to pray that God would continue to bless us as He has already and that we never forget that without God's leading and guiding we will not be able to accomplish this task which we have been called to do.

CLASS PRESENTS BIBLES

The Senior Sunday School Class of St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City, recently undertook a very worthwhile project. They worked and earned money to purchase Pew Bibles for the church. With their determination, hard work and donations from church members, they soon achieved their goal. Fifty Bibles were purchased and placed in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and Sunday School classes. The church members were all very proud when on May 6, 1990, the Bibles were presented and dedicated in a special service led by class members Kent Edwards and Billy Cox.



Kent Edwards (left) and Billy Cox lead the dedication service for new Pew Bibles held at St. Paul Church.

CENTRAL WA CONVENTION PLANNED

The Central District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet

with Bethany Church on Saturday, September 22. The Scripture will be taken from James 1:22, "Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only."

- 9:00 A.M.—Registration
- 9:30 A.M.—Hymn 296, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nation "
- Devotion, Vickie Ellis, Marlboro
- Welcome, Annie Mae Davenport, Bethany
- Response, Jeanette Spain, Gum Swamp
- President's Greetings, Jane Tripp, King's Cross Roads
- Recognition Time
- Business
- Report of Ministries, the Rev. C. H. Overman, General Secretary
- 10:45 A.M.—Hymn 452, "Make Me a Blessing"
- Love Offering
- Memorial Service, Teresa Ball, Elm Grove
- Break (10 minutes)
- Choruses 101, "His Name Is Wonderful"; 102, "There's Something About That Name"
- Business
- 11:50 A.M.—Special Music, Judy Bowen, Bethany
- Message, Sara Willoughby, Past State President
- Hymn 251, Breathe On Me"
- 12:30 P.M.—Adjournment
- Lunch

(No Afternoon Service)

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Johnston Union Church is in need of a pstor. Interested ministers should contact Johnnie Stott, Route 3, Box 35, Smithfield, NC 27577; phones, (day) 934-2286, 934-5189; (night) 934-7922.

NEWS FROM THE PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Piedmont Conference will meet at House of Prayer in Kernersville, NC, at 10 A.M. on October 20, 1990. The Church is located at 955 Dobson Street.

The next Union Meeting of the Piedmont Conference will be held at Highland Pines in Rockingham, NC, on October 27, 1990. The Rev. John Furr will be honored for his many years of service to the conference.

The Ladies Auxiliary will have its annual bazaar on November 3, 1990, at the House of Prayer in Kernersville, NC. The church is located at 955 Dobson Street. For more information, contact the Rev. Doris Pinyan at 919-993-4611.

WESTERN WA CONVENTION

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at Fremont Church, Fremont, on October 3. The theme of the Convention will be "Faithful Servants" and the theme Scripture will be Matthew 25:21. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:15—Registration
- 9:45—Hymn, "In the Service of the King"
 - Devotion (Psalm 101:6), Loydene Proctor
 - Welcome, Louise Kriger
 - President's Remarks, Jean Marlowe
- 10:15—Hymn, "Amazing Grace"
 - Report From Our Retirement Homes, the Rev. Walter Sutton
 - Special Offering for Retirement Homes
 - Faithful in Missions, Mattie Braswell
 - Faithful to Our Children's Home, Agnes Corbitt
 - Faithful to Our Youth
- 11:00—Hymn, "My Jesus, I Love Thee"
 - Convention Offering
 - Life Membership Award,

- Virginia Joyner
- Special Music, Local Church Trio
- Message, Donna Holland
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"
- Devotion and Memorial Service (2 Timothy 4:7-8), Rachel Kirby
- Cragmont Time
- Business Session
- Closing Hymn

The Executive Committee of the Western District Auxiliary Convention asks that each auxiliary bring a special offering for the Retirement Homes.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Joe Ratcliff Jr. announces a change of address. His new address is as follows: Route 2, Box 80-A, Pantego, NC 27860.

**Hear the Word of the Lord
Concerning Commitment
(Romans 12:1-2; Psalm
37:5)—The 1990-91 Theme of
the Convention of Original
Free Will Baptists**

CHAMBERS ESTATE SETTLED



Mrs. Violette K. Phillips, executrix of the Chambers estate, presents the Rev. Walter Reynolds a check for Church Finance Association in the amount of \$100,813.23.

During their lives, D. F. and Anna Lee Chambers held membership with Pearsall Chapel Church, Duplin County. They loved the church and supported its work. Both Mr. and Mrs. Chambers are dead now; and when their estate was settled in early August, their love for the Original Free Will Baptist Church and its ministries became apparent. Two churches and two ministries were listed among their benefactors. Rooty Branch Church, Mrs. Chambers' home church, and Pearsalls Chapel Church each received 10% of the estate, as did both Church Finance Association and the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. The remaining \$1,008,131.95 was divided among 32 individuals.

The Chambers were farmers.

CELEBRATION CONTINUES

by the Rev. Jerry English

Since October 1989 (and through October 1990), Antioch Church has been observing its one-hundredth birthday as a church ministering to the people of New Bern. Many inspiring and wonderful events have taken place.

On June 10, the deacons of Antioch, past and present, were remembered and honored. The present deacons were called to the front of the church and recognized by Bro. Frank Fortner. Each deacon was presented a certificate of honor in recognition of his service to our church. The elder deacon and chairman of the board, Bro. J. R. (Willie) Lee, was presented a plaque for having served over thirty years as a deacon at Antioch.

Antioch pastor, Dr. Jerry B. English, then expressed his appreciation to this board for their assistance and love to him and to this church. He then shared the morning message and invited all present to move to our beautiful fellowship hall for the afternoon meal, which he had been led to believe was to honor the deacons. Little did he know what was to follow. The aforementioned Bro. Fortner delayed Pastor English in the study while the meal was being prepared.

As the pastor arrived at the fellowship hall, he felt that something was not quite right, in that no one was outside, in the foyer; and there were no sounds of eating and fellowship coming from within. As he entered, everyone was looking at him and grinning; they yelled, "Surprise!" and sang "Happy Birthday."

A sumptuous meal was then served. Many hugs, handshakes, gifts and words of love and appreciation were shared afterwards with Pastor English in recognition of his being pastor of Antioch Church for twenty-two

September 1990

years. Mrs. Kay Bowling Whealton then read an original, humorous and inspiring poem about Dr. English and his pastorate at Antioch. There were many laughs and tears as she read. Dr. English responded by thanking the people for their love. He then called everyone to the front who was now an adult who had ever sung in his Little Folks Choir. This, too, was very enjoyable and brought back many fond memories, since many of these adults now have children who sing in such. A large cake with forty-eight candles was brought out and shared. The pastor was led to a "This Is Your Life" display filled with pictures and other memorabilia of his life and tenure at Antioch Church.

The thing which seemed to please everyone so much was the fact that they, the members, had finally "gotten one over" on the pastor, and they loved it.

Antioch Church continued its centennial celebration in August with an "Old-fashioned" Sunday, including a one-room Sunday School with everyone studying the same lesson. Of course we had another fellowship dinner.

In September, all former pastors will be honored. The centennial will conclude with revival, featuring the Rev. Tom Martin, of Hendersonville, the "Shouting Baptist," in October. Homecoming will be held on the second Sunday in October, with Dr. Jerry Goff, of Nashville, Tennessee, bringing the homecoming message.

VBS TERMED "THE BEST"

by the Rev. Jerry English

Antioch Church, New Bern, held its annual Daily Vacation Bible School the last week of July. Mrs. Evelyn English was the director; Dr. Jerry English was in charge of the music; and Bennie Ray Everington was the pianist.

At Antioch Church, we feature classes for all ages from the

nursery through adult. We have Bible study, music, arts, crafts, and of course, refreshments. We invite all faiths to join in. One little boy said that he had been to three Bible Schools this summer and ours was the best yet. When asked why he replied as he did, he explained, "Because you guys at Antioch have the best food!" That has to say something for our church.

One lady, Mrs. Joyce Sawyer, canvassed the neighborhood, picked up kids, gave them supper, and put fifteen of them in her Chevy Chevette and brought them to DVBS. That is real dedication.

In 1989, our enrollment was 150 people. That was a record for our church and we never dreamed we would break it. In 1990, our enrollment was 170. Commencement was held on Sunday morning; and at the close of the service, Dr. English baptized five young people who had given their heart and life to Jesus.

Special note: We always have Bible School after our kids return home from Cragmont because they are always so fired up for Christ. You may be interested to note that The Apostles Sunday School Class always raises the money from special offerings, not tithes, to send all of the kids from our church who wish to go to Cragmont. The total cost is fully covered by this class, plus spending money. This may be an incentive for other churches to consider doing the same.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. James A. Evans has moved to Virginia to stay with his daughter, Mrs. Ann Haddock, at 2464 Dunbarton Road, Chesapeake, VA 23325; phone, 804-424-1246. Mr. Evans suffered a seizure on Saturday, August 18, and was in Chesapeake General Hospital, Chesapeake, VA 23325. (At the time of this printing, Mr. Evans had returned to his daughter's home.)

CHERISHED MOMENTS

by Linda Baker

God granted us the blessing of Kim coming to the Philippines to visit during her summer vacation from East Carolina University. We were all so excited to have the whole family together again. God really does answer prayer.

Kim arrived in the Philippines on Sunday, May 6. Stevie was still in school at Faith Academy in Manila at this time. Kim was able to visit Stevie on Monday, May 7, before coming to Palawan on Tuesday, May 8. Stevie could not come to Palawan until his classes were finished on June 7. This enabled Fred, Kim and I to spend time together catching up on the news. There was a lot to talk about. We caught up on all those things we had not been able to tell each other by letter or phone. It was a special time of sharing.

Stevie arrived home on Friday, June 8. So, after eleven months of separation, we were finally together again. We had fun doing things together again as a family and just talking. There were also those times of misunderstandings you have together as a family. Both are a part of growing together. It was a joy just knowing we were all together, even when we are not doing anything special. When children get to be teenagers and college age, times together as a whole family are so few. Those few times are precious and are cherished moments for a lifetime.

What a sad time it was at the Manila International Airport that Tuesday in July. We could not believe it was time for Kim to leave already. It seemed like she had just arrived. Leaving Kim in the States, our being separated and her leaving to go back to the States has not been easy, but we can testify that God's grace is sufficient. Oh, how we praise and thank God for His grace.



Kim Baker

It was a great joy to be reunited with Kim again after those months of separation. God is so good to us. Please praise and thank God with us for allowing Kim to visit the Philippines this summer.

Thanks so much for your prayers for Kim and Stevie. Please do continue to pray for them. Kim will be a junior at East Carolina University this fall. She is working on her B.S. in nursing. Stevie will be a senior at Faith Academy this fall.

May God bless each of you and your family.

HEALTH FAIR HELD AT CHILDREN'S HOME

by Glenda Hood

How much of an investment do you make in your health? On Friday, June 22, 1990, our residents and staff invested their time learning about what makes a person healthy. Celia Witt, public health dietitian, coordinated the fair. We would like to thank the following participating agencies: American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, Carolina Telephone Speakers Bureau, Department of Human Resources and Natural Resources—Nutrition Section, Nash

County Agricultural Extension, Nash County 4-H, Nash County Health Department, Nash County Sheriff's Department and Nash/Edgecombe Mental Health Center.

Our Health Fair began with staff and residents meeting in the gym for introductions and instructions. Residents were divided into age groups of twelve and under and thirteen and over. Some staff members attended with each age group. The younger residents watched two videos: "Sooper Puppy" and "Never Say Yes to a Stranger," presented by Carolina Telephone's Speakers Bureau. They also attended two workshops: "Growing Up Healthy," presented by Nash County Health Department; and "Let's Eat Right," presented by Nash County Agriculture Extension. Residents in the older age group watched videos on drugs: "Targets" and "You Can Say No to a Drink or a Drug," presented by Carolina Telephone Speakers Bureau. Their workshops were: "Consumer Nutrition," by Nash County Agriculture Extension; and "Healthy Lifestyles," by Nash County Health Department. All ages returned to the gym to look at displays and talk with agency representatives. Ms. Witt presented residents and participating staff with certificates and prize bags given by the Bailey Home Extension Club to end what turned out to be a fun-filled and informative morning.

The staff and residents enjoyed the Health Fair and would like to thank all those who participated.

"TURN YOUR HEART TOWARD HOME" ADDED TO CHILDREN'S HOME TAPE LIBRARY

The film series, "Turn Your Heart Toward Home," by Dr. James Dobson, has recently been added to the Children's Home Audio/Visual Library. The purpose of this film series is to help

one reflect on the meaning and importance of the family. In an age when the family is crumbling from within and is subjected to extreme pressures from outside, Dr. Dobson boldly affirms the value and necessity of building strong family relationships. This six session series is available to churches and may be borrowed by calling (919) 235-2161.

PLANNING SESSIONS FOR MOC DINNERS

There are six planning sessions for the Mount Olive College gift support dinners remaining on the 1990 schedule. The sessions, which are scheduled from mid-August to mid-September, help volunteers to set dates and places for the dinners. The volunteers also receive an update on the work of the College. The 17 dinners are held throughout eastern North Carolina in October and November.

Planning sessions scheduled for September are:

Jones County, Sunday, September 2, 3 p.m., Friendship Church, near Trenton.

Johnston-Wake Counties, Tuesday, September 4, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Smithfield.

Onslow-New Hanover-Brunswick Counties, Friday, September 7, 7:30 p.m., Folkstone Church, Folkstone.

Pitt County, Monday, September 17, 7:30 p.m., Reedy Branch Church, near Winterville.

Wilson County, Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 p.m., Daniel's Chapel Church, near Wilson.

Sampson-Harnett-Cumberland Counties, Thursday, September 20, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove Church, near Newton Grove.

STATE CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT MOC

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet on the campus of Mount Olive College Tuesday-Thursday, September 11-13, 1990. An evangelism rally will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel.

The business and worship sessions of the Convention will be

held in College Hall on Wednesday and Thursday. The Rev. De Wayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Church in Lucama, is president of the Convention.

Following are area motels for those who wish overnight accommodations, in Mount Olive, Southern Belle (658-9404); in Goldsboro, Comfort Inn (751-1999), Days Inn (734-9471), and Holiday Inn (735-7901).

BRIDGE BUILDERS TO BE HONORED

Mount Olive College will launch its annual fall gift support dinners by honoring the 1989-90 Bridge Builders at a dinner in College Hall on Saturday, September 29, at 6:30 p.m.

Bridge Builders are those persons who contribute \$100 or more at the annual Mount Olive College gift support dinners. The Bridge Builders program started in 1984 with 325 participants. There were 1,078 Bridge Builders last year, a 232% increase since the program began.

Qubein Featured Speaker

Nido Qubein of High Point, an alumnus of MOC and member of the College Board of Trustees, will be the featured speaker.

When Nido Qubein arrived in the United States in 1966, he had

no money, no skills, and no command of the English language. But he possessed the vision, ambition and conviction to succeed. After graduating from Mount Olive College in 1968, Nido went on to complete baccalaureate and graduate level studies.

Today he is one of the country's top-rated professional speakers. He is a seminar leader, successful businessman, and has served as a corporate consultant to some of the leading business firms in America including, AT&T, Georgia Pacific, and Tyson Foods. He is president of Creative Services, Inc. of High Point.

In recognition of his success, Nido has been president of the prestigious National Speakers Association, and is the youngest recipient of the coveted Cavett award, considered the "Oscar" of the speaking profession.

All friends of the College are invited for a most inspiring evening. There is no admission charge but reservations are required. Interested persons should contact the College dinner chairman in their church, or Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss at MOC, (919) 658-2502.

DR. K. DAVID HINES TO CONDUCT WORKSHOP

Dr. K. David Hines will conduct a Church Growth and Evangelism (Turn the Page)

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

Tuesday-Thursday, September 11-13
College Hall

Tuesday, September 18
11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel

Thursday, September 27
7 p.m., College Hall

Saturday, September 29
6:30 p.m., College Hall

Thursday, October 4
7:30 p.m., Downtown Auditorium

Thursday, October 25
8 p.m., Downtown Auditorium

North Carolina State Convention
of Original Free Will Baptists

Musical Program
Rick and Patti Jo Pulley

Science Lecture
Dr. Michael F. Corcoran
National Wildlife Federation

Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner
Nido Qubein, Speaker

Dr. Joel Schwartz
"Communism in the Soviet Union and
Eastern Europe"

Faculty Recital
Ms. Irene Weldon

Workshop at St. Mary's Church in New Bern, beginning September 9 and running five consecutive Sundays through October 7. The sessions will begin at 7 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Dr. Hines is director of Education for Church Ministries at Mount Olive College. He earned his doctor of ministries degree, with a concentration in church evangelism, from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Workbooks for the sessions will be available at a cost of \$3. For more information, contact Dr. Hines at (919) 658-2502.

The Rev. Marvin R. Waters is pastor of St. Mary's Church.

MEETING SCHEDULED

The annual meeting of the membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. was held in the Fellowship Hall of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, NC, on Tuesday, September 4, at 10 a.m., for the purpose of electing the appropriate number of Directors, receiving reports from officers, and transacting such business as may properly come before the meeting. See next month's issue for details.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO MRS. J. T. BEDDARD SR.

(Willie Olivia Faulkner Beddard)

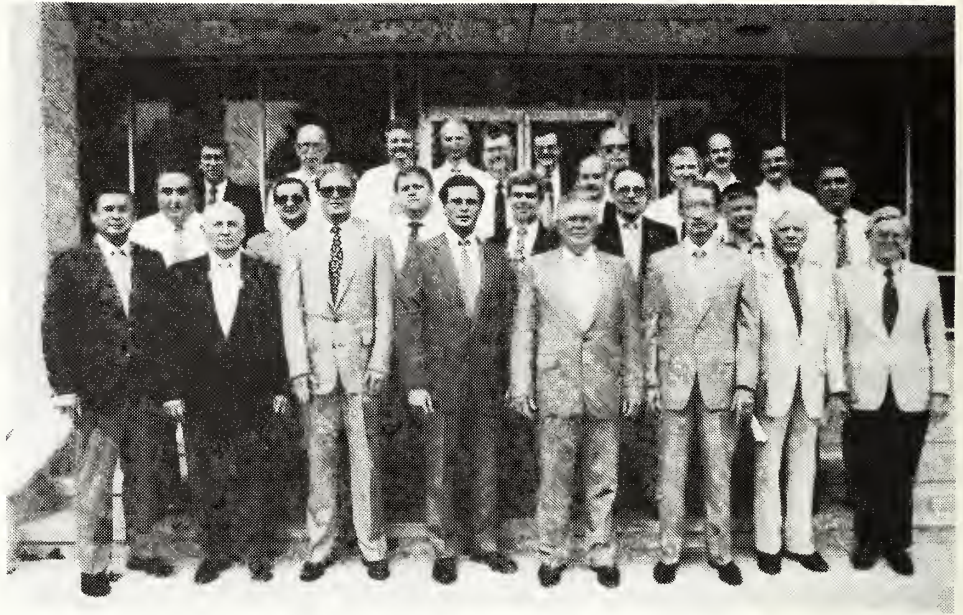
August 26, 1990, marked her 100 year birthday, with ninety-two years on God's earth and eight years in Heaven.

Her children and friends miss her touch and encouragement. Her examples of right living are a challenge and guide to us daily.

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

Garland L. Beddard

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE FOCUSES ON THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH IN THE 1990s



Mount Olive College welcomed 32 ministers during the annual two-day Ministers' Institute, August 6 and 7. The focus throughout the Conference was a look into the implications for the Free Will Baptist Church as it moves into the 1990s.

"Each speaker made a very informative and well-planned presentation," said Frank Harrison, College chaplain and one of the Institute planners. "Our goal was to look at those factors that will influence the church as we move through this decade to the 21st century."

"One of the speakers, Glenn Forrest, spoke of the demographics of eastern North Carolina," Mr. Harrison continued, "which gave our ministers a look at how these factors will affect church growth in our area." Mr. Forrest is a Community Development Director in the Neuse River Council of Government, New Bern.

Other speakers were the Rev. C. H. Overman, general secretary of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; Dr. K. David Hines, director for Christian Ministries at Mount Olive College; Dr. Eugene Sumner, chairman of the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Meredith College, Raleigh; Dr. Albert Edwards (now retired), who served as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh; Chaplain Preston Smith, Nash General Hospital, Rocky Mount; Chaplain Harry Grubbs, Maury Correctional Center, Maury; and the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists and pastor of Little Rock Church, Lucama.

The participants drew information for their presentations from the book *Ten New Directions for the 1990s—Megatrends 2000*, by John Naisbitt and Patricia Aburdene.

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Bridgeton Church is in need of a pastor. Interested ministers should contact Tommy French, P.O. Box 12, Bridgeton, NC 28519; phone number, (919) 637-6857.

Shiloh Church is in need of a full-time pastor. Interested ministers should contact John Mark Windley by writing to him at P.O. Box 102, Pinetown, NC 27865; or by phoning (919) 927-4863.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

LITERATURE COMMITTEE FORMED

by Janie Jones Sowers

For some time now, representatives of the Free Will Baptist Press and the State Sunday School Board have been meeting for the purpose of improving the Christian education of our people. Since both bodies have concerns which deal with the educational program of the church, it is only logical that the two groups work together. Hence, the Literature Committee was born.

Earlier this year, both the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press and the members of the State Sunday School Board adopted the Bylaws for the Literature Committee. "The purpose of this committee shall be to serve as the official liaison between the State Sunday School Board and the Free Will Baptist Press Board. This committee will assist in securing writers for our Sunday School materials by (a) developing guidelines for employment of new writers; and (b) reviewing guidelines set up for new writers. This committee will assist in evaluating writers for Sunday School materials by (a) developing evaluation guidelines; and (b) reviewing evaluation guidelines" (Bylaws, Article II, Sections 1-3).



Press Board Secretary Gaye Renfrow adds her signature, making the Press Board's adoption official. (It should be noted that both bodies adopted the Bylaws unanimously.)



Darrell Horne (center), chairman of the Press Board, signs the first copy of the Bylaws for the Literature Committee, as Bobby Pennington, Press Financial Director (left), Carroll Hawkins and Gary Burbage examine copies.

The committee is made up of six members. Two members are representatives of the State Sunday School Board and two are representatives of the Free Will Baptist Press Board. The editor and field secretary of the Sunday School Board both serve as ex officio members.

While everyone concerned understands the immensity of the task, the intent of the committee is to act, not to react. With this in mind, the group is working on the following tasks at present: (1) an evaluation of our present literature; (2) the development of an inclusive format; (3) guidelines for application and evaluation for teachers; (4) determination of proper instructional levels of materials; (5) guidelines for life application; (6) determination of doctrinal emphases; (7) possible new formatting of children's material; (8) determination and establishment of sales tracking methods; and (9) an explanation of lesson objectives (for writers and/or teachers).

In order that the committee might have a feel for "the pulse of the people," a survey was taken among Original Free Will Baptist churches. (Churches of the State Sunday School Board and Press Board members were asked to participate, as were a number of other churches chosen at random throughout the state. The results

have been tabulated and will provide information with which to begin. The committee has set Spring 1992 as its target date for the completion of the beforementioned tasks. Literature improvements should be noted about the same time.

The creation of this committee should work for the betterment of our total program. I know it should assist me greatly. There are times when our writers need a break. They may not be sure whether or not they want to continue writing. They need time to decide. In the past, I have *tried* to fill the gap. I have also done this when waiting for new writers to begin their work or when deadlines were not met. This puts me in a rather precarious situation. I do not have the time to write the quality of literature I feel our people need (and writing is not one of the things I do best). Once the guidelines are established, I hope to have a pool of people on whom I can call.

I have found the establishment of the committee to be a positive step.

The addition of other minds will benefit us as we identify our weaknesses and seek to strengthen our work.

I look forward to keeping you abreast of the developments in the days ahead.

CAMP REPORT

As is true every summer, things at Cragmont are "hopping." The summer season began with a first: The Woman's Auxiliary split its weeks, having one week of conference in June and the second in August. The June conference was attended by 37 women. While this seems like a small number, it is expected to grow with time.

The Ministers' Conference, our second scheduled conference, was attended by approximately 76 ministers. The program was centered around the message to the churches in the Book of Revelation.

Following the Ministers' Conference are the youth weeks: Christian Cadet, 182 campers and counselors; Youth Frontier (YFA), 90 campers and counselors; Youth Frontier (AFC), 135 campers and counselors; General Youth II, 65 campers and counselors; General Youth I, 178 campers and counselors; Young People's Bible Conference, 142 campers and counselors.

Most of these weeks have held to the traditional schedule of classes in the morning, followed by recreation in the afternoon. Evenings were spent in vespers and fun times. Some have taken trips to Dollywood, Carowinds, the Mall, the Asheville Park and the skating rink for their outings. At the time of this writing, we are in our last youth week with the August Woman's Auxiliary week to go.

Approximately 28 new professions of faith have been made during this session of summer camp. We have had a great summer so far and look forward to closing the summer camp season with another wonderful week with the Woman's Auxiliary Conference next week.

PLEDGE SUPPORT

50,000

5,000



400
Pledges
Needed

400

375

350

325

300

275

250

225

200

175

150

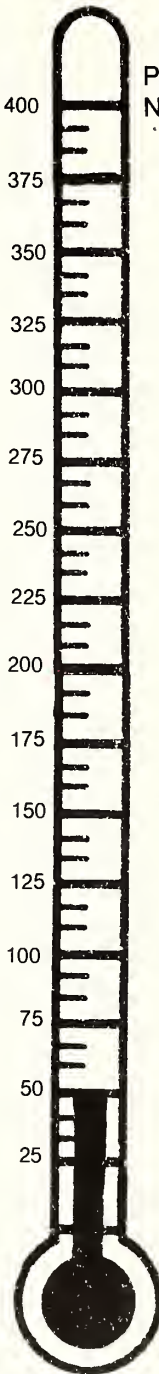
125

100

75

50

25



In order for Cragmont to be debt-free in 1995, approximately \$400,000 needs to be raised. Cragmont is looking for 400 supporters who will pledge \$1,000 each for this goal. Will **you** help?

For more information, contact Cragmont by phoning (704) 669-7677.

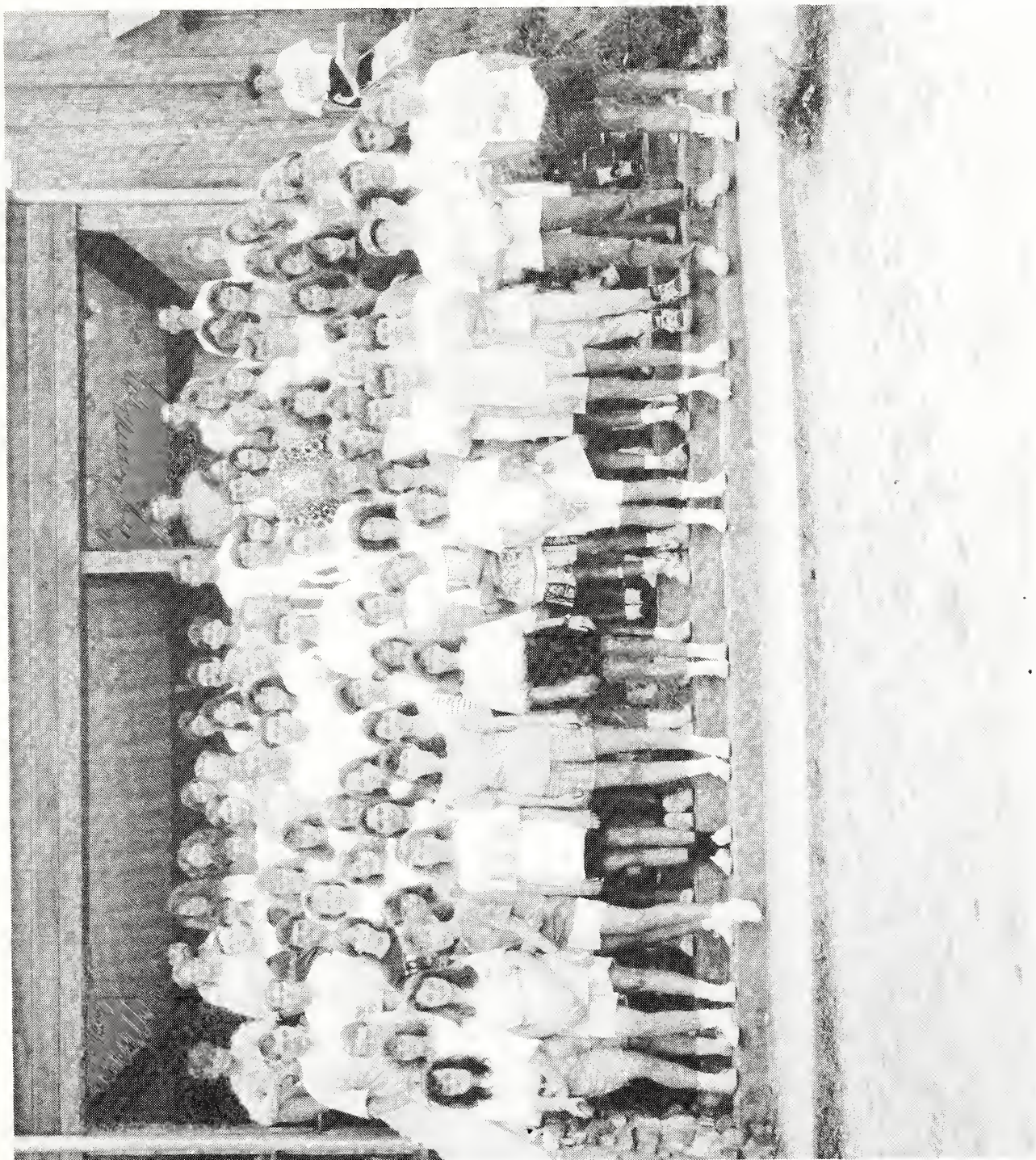
YFA WEEK

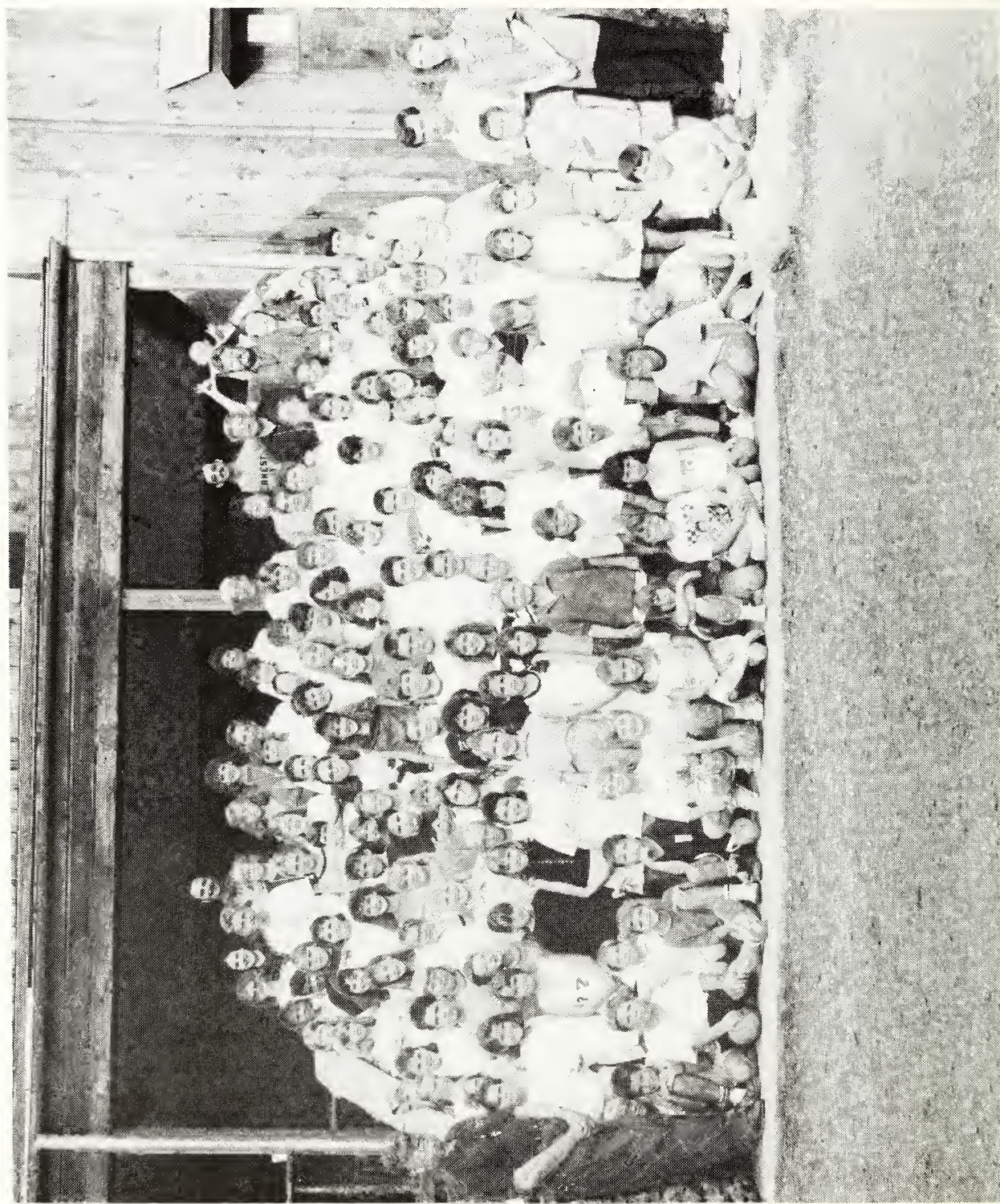
The 1990 Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week at Cragmont proved to be the best ever! The theme of the week was "Basic Training" and the emphasis of the conference was on developing one's Christian walk. Classes dealt with faith issues and evening vespers highlighted daily truths.

Farrah Dixon, Black Jack Church, and Jeremy Creech, Stancill's Chapel, received Overall Camper Awards. Heather Shirley and Chad Grant, Marlboro Church, received Female and Male Camper of the Year. This year's decision was quite difficult to make as all participants in the Conference went beyond the staff's greatest expectations of them. A special word of thanks is also extended to this year's staff—they cared and it showed.

The highlights of the week were many. But the most significant has to be the lives born into the Kingdom and those drawn closer to our Lord. To God be the glory!

—Scott and Janie Sowers





AFC WEEK

One word can describe the 1990 AFC Conference—exceptional. The campers were super (in spite of the rain) . . . the counselors were terrific . . . the classes and chapel services were inspiring . . . the trip to Tweetsie was great . . . and we are praising the Lord for 21 young souls given to the Lord! Our theme of "Grace" was exemplified before us during the entire week.

God provided a dedicated, united counselor staff to whom we express deep thanks for their time and energies; Randy Beaman, Patty Bennett, Kelly Britton, Stacey Burgess, Allen Blount, Jeannie Beckerman, Lora and Richard Hall, Calvin Heath, Misty Jones, Sherry Jones, Ann Pierce, Sam Pittman, Hulon Whitehead, and Sheryll and Philip Wood.

—Doug and Virginia
Skinner, *directors*

**CRAGMONT WOMAN'S
CONFERENCE**
August 6-11, 1990

The theme for the August Woman's Conference was "Perfectly Furnished Unto All Good Works." There were 136 registered for the week.

Bible study in the mornings was on the Book of 1 Timothy, taught by Mrs. Norvelle Dawson. Mrs. Bob Ackiss taught "The Life of Paul" in the evenings. Paul Grubbs, missionary home from the Philippines, was the speaker Friday night. The Rev. Harold Jones, director of the Board of Foreign Missions, gave an up-date on the work in each field.

Morning devotions were by Mrs. Richard Jackson, Mrs. Matthew Parker, Mrs. Marilyn Carter and Mrs. Paul Grubbs.

Mrs. Joann Parrish was pianist, Mrs. Alma Buck, organist, and Mrs. Alma Dale was music director. There was special music throughout the week.

Co-directors, Mrs. Dola Dudley and Ms. Becky Jo Sumner; Mrs. Alice Barrow, registrar, and the Cragmont staff provided a most enjoyable week. Frances Phillips was camp nurse.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary
NCWAC



OUR CHURCH IS BORN IN MADHYA PRADESH

by Dr. E. M. Lall

I am glad to report that for the first time in all these years we have moved to establish our church denomination in another state, the province called the Central Province in Hindi; we call it Madhya Pradesh. This state is also one of the biggest in our country and has more tribal people of differing generations.

Some organization in the name of "Disciples" had started work at this place in the fifties. It subsequently left the work to the church of North India, which it continued for several years. Later it ceased working with these two congregations.

Somehow or the other, Mr. Rual Kumar Masih, aged 43, met our Deacon Naresh in Delhi Bible College. After completing his training, he came to attend our church convention in 1989 and met us there. (The Rev. and Mrs. Harold Jones were also present here and they had a privilege of meeting them also.) Later on we made correspondence. On May 5, our ministers, the Revs. William Samuel of Bareilly and Jyoti Prakash of Agra, were directed to visit the place and to adopt these two congregations—if they felt satisfied and were so moved by the Lord.

It was the Lord's will that these two congregations were consummated into the Free Will Baptist Church of India after the acceptance of our sacred Church Constitution.

These two congregations are comprised of 62 adults and 40 children, and 42 adults and 19 children. These people sell and buy animals in the local market and have little cultivation; some of them are skilled laborers.

Pastor Rual Kumar Masih is a young man whose wife is a nurse, aged 36. They have four children, who are aged 2, 4, 8 and 9. He is



respected by his people. They are building a worship place which stands without a roof at this time. May the Lord help them to complete this place for their worship.

We covet the prayers of believers for these two new congregations that they might work with us to glorify and honor God.

(Turn the Page)

July, 1990

To All Free Will Baptist Churches and Sunday Schools:

On July 2, 1990, the following motion was made and properly passed in the quarterly Sunday School Board meeting:

Given the present financial situation, we reluctantly give the field secretary a ninety day notice of termination of employment. This ninety day notice will be completed on October 1, 1990.

Due to the lack of sufficient financial support from the churches and Sunday Schools of our denomination, the board was forced to take this action. Over the last six years we have made available to you the services of our field secretary. Many of you have benefited from this great resource; however, some of you have provided little or no financial support necessary to maintain this position. Our budget for 1990-91 amounts to just \$12,000; yet, based on previous contributions, we can realistically anticipate contributions to be no greater than \$6,000. This board cannot work to meet the needs of our denomination relying on that kind of support. The only way we as your Sunday School Board can continue to fund the office of field secretary is through your **generous** and **consistent** support. We would like for you to make the Sunday School Board a permanent part of your church and/or Sunday School budgets.

We are asking you to make this a matter of prayer, and we urge you to share this information with your church and/or Sunday School as soon as possible. The office of field secretary is a part-time office that we would like to see continued. Our hope is that by the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists on September 11-13, 1990, we can announce to you that the position of field secretary will be filled next year and our budget met. If we are to make this announcement, the people of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination must respond IMMEDIATELY! Send your contributions to:

Mr. Elwood Hill, treasurer
P.O. Box 68
Deep Run, N.C. 28525

Please help us continue the work of Christ through the training and enrichment of our Sunday School workers.

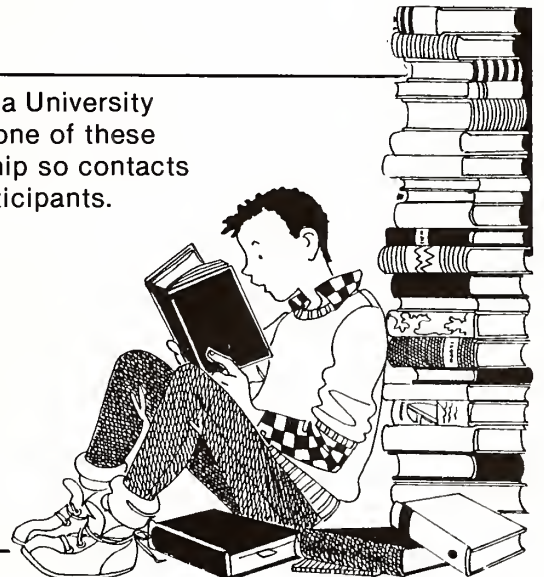
Yours in Christ,

Phillip D. Boykin, *Chairman*
Sunday School Board

The student fellowship of Pitt Community College and East Carolina University students is alive and well! Congregations with students attending one of these two schools are encouraged to contact the advisors of the fellowship so contacts can be made. The fellowship provides friends and activities for participants. Times of spiritual growth and recreation are offered.

The next meeting of the fellowship will be held on Monday, September 10, at Marlboro Church. (The church is located on Highway 264-A, approximately one mile before Farmville, on the left.)

Advisors of the fellowship are the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, 107 Essex Drive, Winterville, NC 28590; 355-3264; the Rev. Doug Skinner, 804 East Cooper Street, Winterville, NC 28590; 756-0520/756-3838; and Janie Jones Sowers, Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmville, NC 27828.



Seventy-Eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

**College Hall
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina**

Tuesday, September 11, 1990

7:30—Evangelism Rally

Rodgers Chapel

Wednesday, September 12, 1990

MORNING SESSION

Ushers, Home Missionaries; Pianist, Mrs. Debbie Mitchell; Song Leader, Mr. Sam Pittman

8:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates

Credentials Committee

9:00—Convention Called to Order

Mr. G. C. Bryan

—Congregational Singing

Mr. Sam Pittman

—Solo

Mr. Sam Pittman

—Scripture and Prayer

The Rev. Adrian Grubbs

—Welcome

The Rev. Frank Harrison

9:15—President's Remarks

The Rev. De W. Eakes

—Appointment of Committees

The Rev. De W. Eakes

—Partial Report of Credentials Committee

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

—Executive Committee Report

Mr. G. C. Bryan

—General Secretary's Report

The Rev. C. H. Overman

—Miscellaneous Business

REPORTS

10:00—Foreign Missions

The Rev. Harold Jones

10:15—Mount Olive College

Dr. W. Burkette Raper

10:45—Worship Service

—Congregational Singing

—Convention Offering and Special Music

—Introductory Message

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Registration (1:30-2:00)

—Congregational Singing

—Recognition of Fraternal Delegates

Mr. Sam Pittman

1:50—Children's Home

The Rev. J. B. Narron

2:05—Retirement Homes

The Rev. Bobby Taylor

2:15—Home Missions

The Rev. Walter Sutton

2:25—Ministers' Program

The Rev. David C. Hansley

2:40—Church Finance Association

The Rev. Donald Fader

2:50—Free Will Baptist Press

The Rev. Walter Reynolds

3:00—Miscellaneous Business Session

Mr. R. Clifford Gray

EVENING SESSION

7:30—Missions Rally

College Hall

Thursday, September 13, 1990

8:30-9:00—Final Registration
9:00—Congregational Singing and Solo
—Scripture and Prayer
9:15—Cragmont Assembly
9:25—State Sunday School Convention
9:30—Board of Denominational Publications
9:35—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention
9:40—State Layman's League Convention
9:45—State League Convention
9:50—Historical Commission
9:55—Ministerial Association
10:00—Camp Vandemere
10:10—Chaplain's Commission
10:15—Carolina Bible Institute
10:30—Worship Service
—Congregational Singing
—Convention Offering and Special Music
—Message
11:30—Treasurer's Report
11:40—Miscellaneous Business
12:00—Recess for Lunch

The Rev. Roy Clifton

The Rev. Preston Smith
The Rev. John Williams
The Rev. Bass Mitchell

Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan
Mr. Donald Marlowe
The Rev. Ed Thornton
Miss Leah McGlohon
The Rev. Ray Wells
The Rev. Ralph Sumner
The Rev. Adrian Grubbs
The Rev. Floyd Cherry

Mr. Sam Pittman
The Rev. Bobby Carden
The Rev. J. B. Narron

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Congregational Singing and Prayer
1:40—Obituary Committee
1:45—Final Report of Credentials Committee
1:50—Resolutions Committee
—Nominating committee
—Miscellaneous Business Session

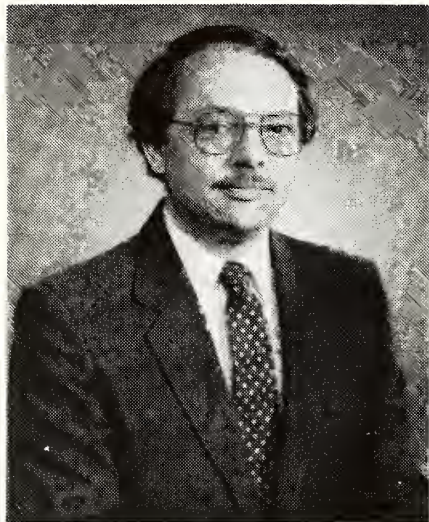
The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood
The Rev. Earl Glenn
The Rev. Donald Coates

**CONVENTION
PRAYER
SESSION**



Previous to the opening session of the 1990 annual session of the State Convention, a special prayer session is planned for Wednesday, September 12, at 8 a.m. in Rodgers Chapel. Come and let us unite our hearts in prayer and supplication.

CONVENTION PERSONALITIES



The Rev. De Wayne Eakes

The Rev. De Wayne Eakes is president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Mr. Eakes is pastor of Little Rock Church, Lucama.



The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, moderator of the Central Conference and pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, will deliver the keynote message on Wednesday.

The Rev. Bobby Carden will speak on Thursday. He is pastor of White Oak Church, Bladenboro.

YOUR CHURCH



I

I am your Church:

A building of wood, brick or stone;
surmounted by belfry or simple cross—
Symbol of His death, Resurrection and throne;
where sinner-saints and sinners lost
come together under God's love.

II

I am your Church:

A local people of common faith
committed in love to each other's care;
A worshipping community, by God's grace,
released from Satan's seductive snare
and called into His service.

III

I am your Church:

Severalty; forming a conference, a Denomination
founded in a common "Faith and Discipline."
Congregations embracing, in association,
the cause of the Great Commission
through denominational ministries.

IV

I am your Church:

The Church Universal, in Heaven and on Earth
whose Head is Jesus Christ.
My faith is quickened in His Virgin Birth
and sealed by His shed blood, the price
He paid for me.

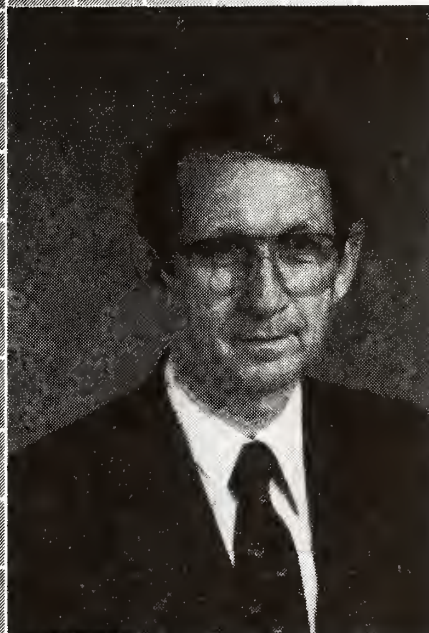
—Graham Frazelle

NIGHT OF EVANGELISM

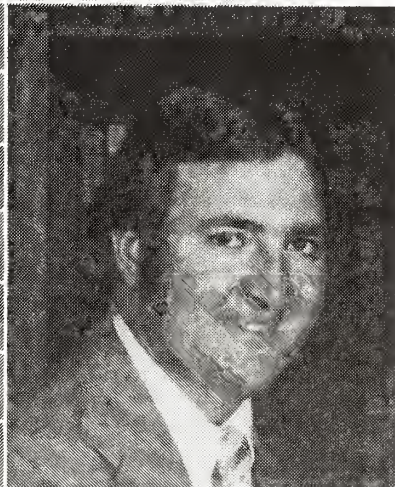
SEPTEMBER 11, 1990
MOUNT OLIVE CHAPEL
MOUNT OLIVE, NC

7:30 P.M.

SPONSORED BY BOARD OF
HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM
SPEAKERS: THE REV. C. H. OVERMAN
THE REV. W. SCOTT SOWERS



Mr. Overman serves as General Secretary of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and pastors Hickory Grove Church, Bethel.



Mr. Sowers serves as Vice President of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and is pastor of Marlboro Church, Farmville.

1990 STATE CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

(Board of Foreign Missions in Charge)

Date: September 12, 1990

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Place: College Hall, Mount Olive College

Speaker: Paul Grubbs

Testimony: Teresa Grubbs

Special Music: Genesis Choral Group
New Life Quartet (both of Stoney Creek Church)



Teresa, Andrew, Nathaniel, Matthew, Paul

The Grubbs Family just completed a term of service in the Philippines. They are home on furlough. Plan now to attend and show your appreciation to this family that so faithfully served our Lord in the Philippines. Come and bring a large representation from your church.

Special Offering: Your special offering at this Missions Rally is vital for the continued growth of your missions programs. Begin to pray now and ask God to reveal to you what your contribution should be this year. I believe Him for the greatest offering in our history.

Remember: Your special gift to Foreign Missions at the Missions Rally must be designated. If for some reason you cannot attend the Rally, you can mail your gift and receive credit for the Rally offering.

Our Convention's Five-Year Theme HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

(Isaiah 39:5b)

Listen—Romans 10:17; **Understand**—Luke 24:45; **Act**—James 1:22



Annual Themes

- 1990-91—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Commitment (Romans 12:1-2; Psalm 37:5)
1991-92—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Outreach (Acts 18:15; Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 10:2; Acts 1:8)
1992-93—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Discipleship (Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23; 1 Peter 4:10)
1993-94—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Stewardship (1 Corinthians 4:2; 1 Corinthians 6:20)
1994-95—Hear the Word of the Lord Concerning Christian Ministry (Galatians 6:10; 1 Peter 4:10-11)

This five-year theme has been adopted by the Executive Committee of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and presented to the conference moderators, ministry directors and board chairmen, commissions and boards of the Convention. It is hoped that this theme will be carried out as suggested by the Convention. Churches and ministers are urged to unite in emphasizing this theme. This fall's Convention will focus on the theme and especially on the subject of "Commitment." It is our desire that the coming year, 1990-91, will truly be a year of deep spiritual commitment to His will as Free Will Baptists. "Hear the Word of the Lord."

OUR TRIP TO PHOENIX

As many of you know by now, it was my privilege to attend the National Association of Free Will Baptists on July 17-19, 1990, which met in Phoenix, Arizona. We realize there has been some speculation as to how and why this visit occurred. Our purpose in this issue of "Notes and Quotes" is to give the background and update on this matter.

In its '89 session, held in Tampa, Florida, the NAFWB approved a resolution "... inviting unaffiliated groups of Free Will Baptists to send representatives to our meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, July 15-19, 1990" (*Contact*). The Association has also approved the concept of establishing an International Association, or Fellowship, of Free Will Baptists.

In March of this year, the President of our Convention, the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, and I, received an official invitation from the Executive Secretary of the National Association, Dr. Melvin Worthington, stating, "We extend a cordial invitation to the members of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists to attend" the National Association meeting in Phoenix. We also received an invitation from the California Association of Free Will Baptists to represent at the National Association.

Previous to this invitation, and upon learning about the motion that was passed in Tampa, the Executive Committee of our Convention discussed the matter rather thoroughly and I was asked as General Secretary to pursue the possibility of our representation. After receiving the invitation from the Executive Director, I arranged a meeting with Brother Worthington. I had previously conversed with him by telephone. His view concerning such a move was based on the reestablishment

of friendship and fellowship—and nothing more, which is the present view held by all.

Twenty-eight years have passed since the division with the National Association. Many Free Will Baptists now feel that it is time to forget *and* that the time for forgiveness is long past.

The view of our Executive Committee was basically two-fold: If we could send "fraternal" delegates to other associations and conferences of other denominations, then why not do the same regarding the National Association; and, as already stated, there comes a time for healing and forgiving.

Now for a more personal appraisal of the trip to Phoenix. In many ways, it was a highlight of my ministry to Free Will Baptists. It seemed ironic that after so many years I would be in place to be the one to represent. As expected, I was very courteously received. My presence was recognized in the Tuesday evening service by the Executive Secretary and I was asked to stand. It was also stated that I would be bringing greetings from our Convention on Wednesday morning, which I did. Simply put, I felt the directions of God in what I was doing and in what I said. Many of those present came to me during the two days to express their appreciation to our Executive Committee for our presence. The visit allowed me to renew friendships, to talk with former schoolmates, and to fellowship with them. Many expressed their wishes for a continuous friendship and fellowship. Thus, as a follow-up on my visit to the National Association, the Executive Committee in its meeting on August 6, 1990, decided to extend to the National Association an invitation to attend our Convention this year. The invitation

has been forwarded to the Executive Secretary, Brother Worthington.

Again, the trip to Phoenix was a great experience. I experienced for the first time in my life the "dry" heat of Phoenix (with temperatures 112° and higher). Most importantly, I experienced the warmth of Christian fellowship. I want to thank all those who helped to create the climate for this historical event and also those who encouraged our representation.

THE BILLY GRAHAM SCHOOL OF EVANGELISM

From July 30-August 2, 1990, it was my privilege to attend the Billy Graham School of Evangelism which was held in Asheville, North Carolina. Twenty-one of our ministers and wives attended this school. It was a wonderful and unique experience and it was also a very busy schedule. The experience of more than 800 ministers and wives from 55 denominations worshiping and singing together was great. The messages by some of the leading ministers throughout the United States provided for a time of feasting on the Word. How grateful we are that God allowed us to be a part of that great gathering!

CONVENTION LETTERS

The Convention report blanks have been mailed to our church clerks, along with the registration cards and letter of instruction. If any church has not received theirs, please let us know and we will forward the information to you. Let's pray for a great Convention!

**1990 STATE
CONVENTION:
September 11-13**

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE CHURCH IN A SECULAR SOCIETY

by the Rev. C. H. Overman

As with all words, there are several definitions of the word "church." One of them simply says, "All Christians." This meaning fits—if by Christian we mean one who has made a total commitment to Jesus Christ, the Lord. Thus, "the church," is made up of those who truly know Him in the pardon and forgiveness of sin, and are striving to serve Him. Our own *Articles of Faith* state: "We believe that the church is the body of Christ, all Christians, everywhere." Then we set forth our beliefs regarding the local church and its obligations.

An example of a gathering of the church—Christians—was at the recent Billy Graham School of Evangelism in Asheville, where 55 denominations were represented, and 21 of our own, that is, Free Will Baptists, were present. We sang and worshiped as one—the way it should be.

In contrast to the word church, let us now take a look at the word "secular." It's defined as: "Not sacred or religious; not connected with a church; temporal, as secular schools; living in the outside world." In view of this definition, we conclude that most of what we do, what we say, etc., is indeed secular. On the other hand, "secular" becomes sacred or religious if performed by one belonging to the body of Christ, the church. A Christian in the marketplace is in this sense a part of the secular world; but only if what he says and does brings honor to God can it be holy or sacred. Christians are in the world, but not of it.

Next, consider the word "society." It seems that the most acceptable definition in view of the context of our title is: "All people, collectively, as a community of interdependent individuals." Society, here, refers to people generally, or "the public." As we know, there are many different types and levels of society.

What we are purposing to do in this discussion is to consider the reality that "Christians everywhere" are struggling to live for God in a world (society) that is temporal and really has nothing to do with that which is holy or religious, or Christian. In his struggles, however, the Christian may honor his faith in rightfully using that which is temporal—as tithing, for example.

There are several passages of Scripture that could serve as a basis for our subject, but my mind kept going back to the words of Jesus found in the Gospel of John (read John 15:18-19). Now may we note verse 19 as is found in *The Living Bible*: "The world would love you if you belonged to

it; but you don't—for I chose you to come out of the world, and so it hates you."

Jesus, of course, was speaking to His disciples. In a previous verse (John 14) He sought to comfort them in the realization that one day He would not be with them. In our text, He was seeking to prepare them to face the hatred of the world, and certainly He was speaking of people in general, the public (world/society).

At this point we want to pose two questions:

1. Are the words of Christ in John 15:18-19, still applicable to us (the followers of Christ) today? Indeed they are! That is, if we are truly His followers. Let us always remember that society would be happy to live or exist without the church.

Joe Aldrich, speaking at the School of Evangelism, stated: "We are living in the post Christian era." He then stated that things can only get worse when it comes to the attitude and action of the world toward the church. Indeed it seems there has been a definite shift in the attitude of the world toward the church. We, then, can expect great opposition and persecution if we are true to biblical truths.

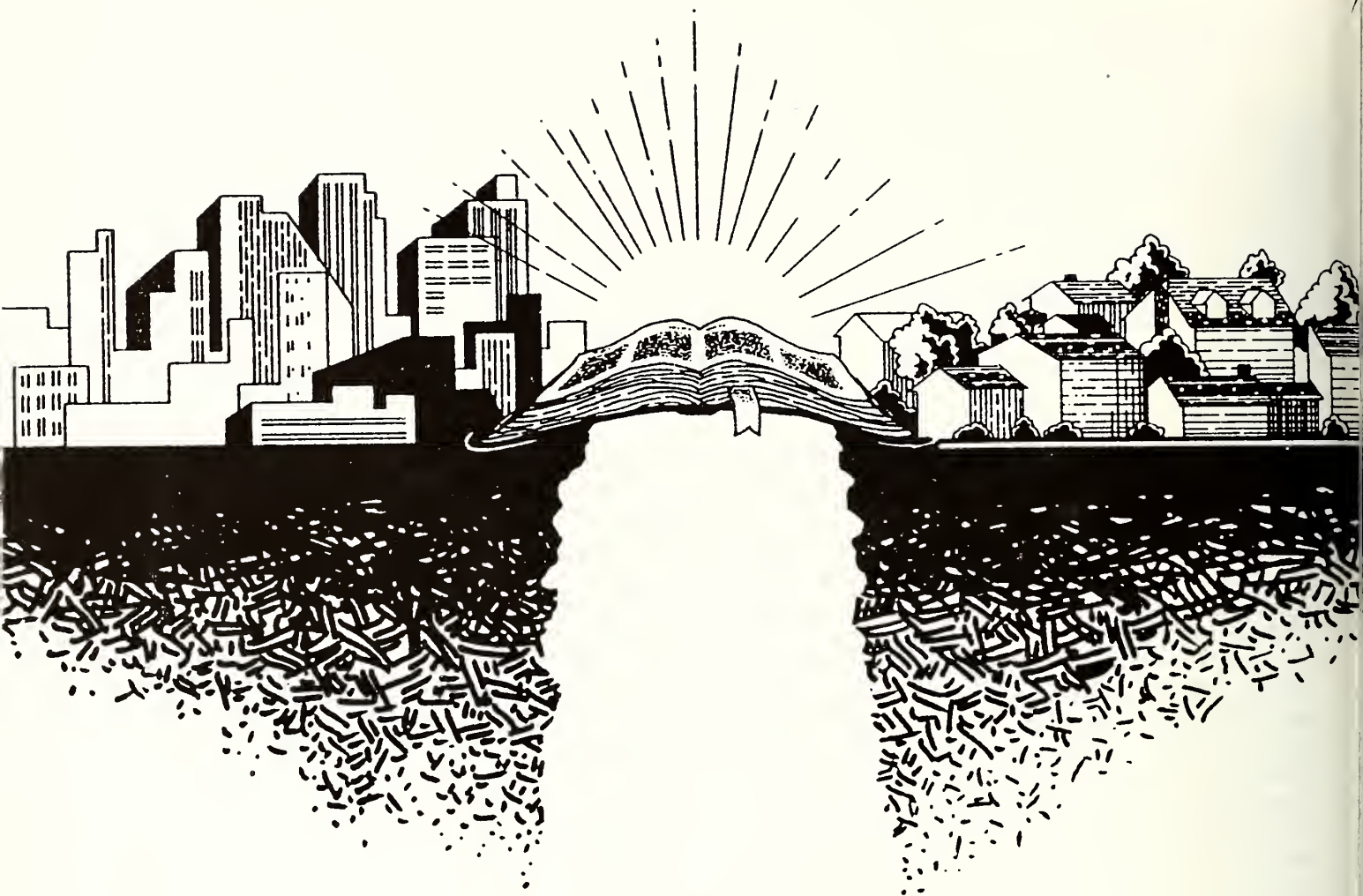
Franklin Graham, the son of Billy Graham, in speaking at the Evangelism School, referred to the violent actions of the police toward the anti-abortionists in recent months.

Let us remember the words of Paul to Timothy: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come, For men . . ." *The Living Bible* reads: ". . . know this too, Timothy, that in the last days it is going to be very difficult to be a Christian." Yes indeed! the words of Christ are still applicable.

2. Does the society in which we live hate the church? Obviously yes! The depth of that hatred is based on our commitment to Him—just how true we are to His teachings. Remember, the world hated Christ not only because of what He said, but also because of who He was, or (to them) who He said He was. That age, or society, would have "ridded" themselves of Him much sooner if they could have; but such was not possible until God the Father ordained it. Remember they even called Him the son of the Devil.

The Church's Mission

In this secular world, or society, the church has a mission, indeed a priority—to make disciples. This priority we call "The Great Commission," based on Matthew 28:18-20.



In his book, *Agenda for Biblical People*, Jim Wallis states: "The great tragedy of modern evangelism is in calling many to *belief* but few to *obedience*." The comfort of pleasant surroundings enjoyed by the church today would be changed to "the spiritual warfare" of the Bible, if the majority in the church were truly called to obedience.

Just think of the demands of being His disciples. Matthew 16:24-26: "... If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul. Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

What about His requirements put forth to the rich young ruler—sell your possessions, give to the poor, come follow me. This young rich man had not really obeyed the commandments—for his riches were more important than obedience to God. The Scriptures never mention him again. Many other biblical examples could be cited—Scriptures which put forth the tests of discipleship. The mission of the church, in fulfilling the Great Commission, is to: "... reject the patterns of the present world system and idolatrous values and assumptions upon which it is based, freed to bear witness by their life together to the new possibilities of the Kingdom of God, which is nothing less than the inbreaking of a new order to replace the old."—Jim Wallis in *Agenda for Biblical People*

Characteristics of the Secular Society

There are four characteristics that describe the secular society:

1. *A secular society is self-centered.*

The secular society is not motivated by the concerns and needs of others unless those concerns and needs add to one's fulfillment of self, or selfishness. The successful farmer, in the story that Jesus told in Luke 12, is a good example here. He thought only of self: "I know what I will do . . ." etc. Finally, "Then whose shall these things be?"

The philosophy of the secular world is to "possess, to gain, to get rich," and to do so in whatever way possible. Thus the church today is facing a more "taking" world; whereas, the church must give and help. Anything less is to fail Him who gave His all for us.

2. *A secular society is materialistic.*

We need to be reminded that most of the world is poor and wretched and that the concern of secular society is to "get gain," to be always desiring more. Someone once asked Henry Ford I how much money it would take to satisfy a person. His answer was, "A little more."

Jesus said, "Hardly shall a rich man . . ." It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle . . ." (Matthew 19:13, 24).

We cannot serve God and mammon—money, the world.

Materialism is based on the gaining of money. Need we be reminded of the many who have fallen because of the materialistic philosophy? It is in this materialistic world that the church is struggling.

3. *The secular world is both amoral (not concerned with moral standards) and immoral.*

The evidence abounds—sex sins, gambling, drug abuse, murder, rape, pornography, child abuse, etc. It may be that the greatest failure of the church today is our attitude of tolerance, believing that if everyone (it may seem) is doing it, then it's O.K. The absence of concern comes when there is no basis for morality. In other words, the Word is ignored.

We need to remember what Jesus said about conditions in Noah's day and He said those same conditions would exist in the last days.

4. *A secular society is opposed to Christ (anti-Christian).*

The evil forces of the world are at work today with more boldness than ever. It is reported that the Rock group "Black Sabbath," in one of its concerts, offered prayers to Satan that the families of

gospel ministers might be broken up. Just a few years ago such openness and boldness would not have been heard of. The rise of the occult, Satanism, the cults—all these attest to the anti-Christian movement.

It is in this secular society that the church exists—and in spite of all the evil forces marshaled against it, the church will not fail.

There are too many today who have the philosophy of the Kentucky farmer who entered his mule in the Kentucky Derby. He was asked by his friends if he thought his mule had the slightest chance of winning. "No," he replied, "but I figured that the association might help him." The church must be careful of its associations. To overcome the cult movement, we must fulfill our mission.

"The church is the body of Christ." This dramatic biblical metaphor speaks of the powerful way the work of Christ has united us to Him and to each other. It means that Christ is alive and present in the community and is head over the body. It means that the church is called to embody the presence of Christ in the world by obeying His words, reflecting His mind, and continuing His mission in the world by following the manner and style of His life, death, and Resurrection. Jesus tells us that He came into the world not to be served but to serve, and so it is with us. Our vocation is to serve men and women in His name. We are called, not to be conquerors, but to be a self-giving body whose leader was crucified on a cross and asks His followers to take up that same cross. We are called, not to accumulate wealth and influence or to strive to manipulate power, but to empty ourselves as He did for the sake of others.

"We are called to give a cup of cold water in His name, which will mean feeding the hungry, meeting the needs of the homeless and the refugees, supporting the imprisoned, befriending the lonely, standing with the poor and the outcasts, loving the unloved . . ." (*Agenda for Biblical People*).

The church exists in this secular society to serve, to be an influence, to be the salt of the earth, to be the light of the world. And we have His promise to be with us, even to the end of the world. Our battle is continuous and it is a spiritual battle. So we press onward with a prayer that we might more fully understand what it means to be His people in a secular world, and once we begin to understand, to be faithful.

The secular world is everchanging, becoming more secular. We must, therefore, hold on to the unchanging Christ (Hebrews 11:8).

The above was delivered by Mr. Overman during the 1990 Ministers' Institute held in August.

THE CHURCH AND THE LIFE STAGES OF ITS FAMILIES

by Dennis B. Guernsey

Anyone who preaches from a pulpit Sunday after Sunday or regularly teaches Sunday School becomes aware of how much people are alike. And yet, each person is on a unique personal journey. For the family, these similarities and differences create constantly changing patterns and rhythms.

Sociologists refer to these identifiable patterns and rhythms as the "life cycle of the family." They say each family passes through predictable stages or cycles during its lifetime. The number of stages vary according to the particular sociologist defining the issue. But what is relevant is that stages are predictable.

ORGANIZING PRINCIPLES

Every pastor who engages in premarital counseling, for example, recognizes an elementary form of the family life cycle by dividing the emerging family's life into two stages: "before marriage" and "after marriage."

The larger theory is simply an extension of the same principle. When people in a family experience a significant change in roles, either the addition of a new role or the loss of an old one, the family changes. Thus the idea of the "life cycle."

The first organizing principle for the family life stages is the predictable nature of this change. For example, we can predict the demands facing the new husband or wife, the new father or mother, the parent of teenagers, the change when the children leave home, and the new role surrounding retirement. Whether there is the addition of a new role or the subtraction of an old one, the process forms a pattern.

The second organizing principle is the idea of crisis. Each new stage precipitates a time of instability. In turn, the instability demands that the



system flex because of the change. Usually this evokes a crisis because the family system does not know how to change.

No other institution has stepped forward to educate or support the family during these transitions. This vacuum provides the church with its moment of opportunity with families. Families need help and support at these predictable times.

STAGES OF THE LIFE CYCLE

Let me suggest seven stages of the family's life cycle and the critical transitional tasks for each stage.

1. The Between-Families Young Adult

A young adult in this stage of the life cycle is usually between the ages of 18 and 30 and unattached from his or her family of origin.

Differentiating Oneself

Their tasks include differentiating oneself as an independent person from the family of origin. Differentiation means the creation and maintenance of healthy and appropriate boundaries between the young adult and his or her

parents. It involves the establishment of practical independence and the sense of being responsible for one's self. Whether it has to do with financial independence or interpersonal competence, it involves the growth and development of the person as a person separate from, although not necessarily different from, the identity of the family.

Differentiation must be accomplished if there is to follow a solid marriage and parenting.

Occupational Choice

Occupational choice is the second major task of this stage. This choice is more than getting a job. It involves the selection of a way of life. Levels of education required to do what the young adult wants, attitudes toward work and productivity, and a healthy approach toward leisure are involved in this task. They are in the stage of "growing up" and thus must face the reality of what it means to answer the age-old question, "What do you want to be?"

Marital Choice

Marital choice is the third major task of this stage. It begins with the decision to marry or not to marry. Most will choose to marry. The sense of self, coupled with the influence of one's family, forms the young adult's perception of intimate relationships.

2. Newly Married Young Adults

In addition to the tasks of the previous stage which may still be in process, at least three development issues face young adults.

A Sense of Mutuality

The first task, a sense of mutuality, includes the capacity for intimacy, both emotional and sexual, and the skills of communication needed to facilitate mutuality. How two become one is indeed a mystery, and the young adult seeks to put the puzzle together.

Accepting the Real Person

The second task, accepting the real person, has to do with idealization and disillusionment. One of the great barriers to intimacy in marriage is the inevitable comparison of the real person one has married with the ideal person imagined before marriage. Adjusting to the real and putting aside the demands for the ideal form a major dimension in the task of developing mutuality.

Fitting in With Kin

The third task, fitting in with the kin, involves forming a network with each partner's family. How does the young couple establish its own identity and traditions while at the same time remaining loyal to the expectations of its families? Negotiating this ambivalence is central to the growth of the new couple and the integrity of their emerging relationships.

3. The First Child and Preschool Children

The romanticism of parenting infants and toddlers is challenged by the reality of colic, diapers, fatigue, and the intrusiveness of babies upon the marriage.

Maintaining Balance

How to encourage the development of children while maintaining a satisfying marriage is a major task during this stage. Also, the realities of fatigue, especially for the young mother, is a dominant issue. Does the marriage turn in upon itself in order to cope with these demands or does it develop a healthy balance? The ministry of the church to the couple with its first baby and with toddlers lies in a creative response to this later need.

4. Families With Young Children

This stage begins when the oldest child goes off to school.

Deparentalization

The major task during this time is the process of letting go of the parenting role. In this stage the parent must help the child function away from the apron strings, learning to do things under the supervision of other trustworthy adults and sometimes on the child's own. Parents begin to let go.

Companionship

In terms of the marriage, the task involves developing a genuine sense of companionship in light of the competitive demands of the children, careers, and the church. Facilitating companionship is an opportunity for the church to minister during this stage.

5. The First Teenagers Through Launching

Letting Go

The parent must let go. The process of deparentalization, begun in the previous stage, is continued in capital letters during this stage. How can a parent relinquish control to an adolescent who seems so irresponsible is the dilemma? Letting go is easy to say but hard to do.

Triangling

In terms of the marriage, the emerging adolescent places strain upon the husband and wife relationship. Working together while at the same time allowing each parent to develop his or her own relationship with the teen and without getting in the middle is critical. Sociologists call the problem "triangling." It is during this stage that many couples need the support and input of friends so as not to destruct because of the tension in the family. This support and input provides the church with its greatest opportunity to minister to the family with teenagers.



6. Launching and Middle Years

Because of the frequent decision to have smaller families, this stage is becoming the longest of all stages.

Re-discovery

Will there still be a family when the children leave? How do people manage the middle years with its freedom yet with its potential emptiness is the task confronting couples during this stage. What will be the nature of the marriage relationship? If this is not a successful time of re-discovery, it will become a time of despair.

Connected But Not Meddlesome

The second item has to do with relating to the children who have been launched. Just how much aid do parents give and when? How do you "grand-parent"? How do you stay connected without being meddlesome? Too often there is precious little help from the church in finding answers.

Aging Parents

This is the third task those in middle years face. How do you cope with the demand of aging parents? How much aid do you give and when? How do you parent parents?

7. The Retirement Years

Usefulness

Is there life after work? What do you do with yourself when what you've been doing all these

years stops? This issue is one of usefulness.

Income and Health

A second issue has to do with resources, both financial and physical. The couple who retires often faces the problem of a reduced budget and chronic illness. The solution seems to be that of joining together with other couples in terms of mutual aid or of becoming isolated and depressed. Recognizing the need to organize such aid and to minister to those who are isolated is the church's opportunity with retired people.

WHERE DO WE PUT OUR RESOURCES?

I am reminded of the television commercial selling oil filters for automobiles. The mechanic confronts the viewer with the need to change filters by announcing, "You can pay me now or pay me later." The commercial illustrates the terrible cost of corrective measures as contrasted to the comparatively minimal cost of preventive measures.

When it comes to family ministry, the church as an institution in society spends most of its resources and energy on corrective measures. I suggest we ought to be preventing fires instead, not trying to put them out.

I suggest that family ministry in the church should be structured in such a way that it uses the life cycle of the family as an organizing principle around which it provides preventive education and support.

Educating a family as to what it can expect before the changes are demanded and supporting it while it copes with life and relationships in the midst of the changes seems both logical and workable.

Perhaps the only reason we haven't organized family ministry in the church around such a principle before this is that no one else is doing it. Too often we copy what is being done in other institutions rather than creatively responding to the opportunities before us.

In terms of the church's ministry to families, we have the choice of remaining copyists or becoming innovators. Fortunately, the choice is still ours.

Dennis Guernsey, Ph. D., is associate professor and director of Marriage and Family in the School of Psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is the consulting editor of the Family Ministry Series (David C. Cook Publishing Co.) designed to minister to families in each stage of the family life cycle.

Article offered free by David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 North Grove, Elgin, IL.

TIME FOR WHAT'S IMPORTANT

Not far from Jerusalem was the town of Bethany. It was here that Jesus came many times to visit some very good friends—Mary, Martha, and their brother Lazarus.

One day when Jesus came to visit these dear friends, Martha answered the door and asked Him to come inside. Martha then began preparing some food for Jesus and her brother and sister. She was very busy and wanted everything to be perfect for their meal. (This is probably the same way your mother acts when you have guests at your house to eat!) While Martha was busy in the kitchen, Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened as He talked to her.

Finally, Martha came to Jesus and said, "Lord, do you not care that Mary is letting me do all the work? Please tell her to help me."

Jesus told Martha that she needed to stop worrying about their meal and to take time out for more important things as Mary was doing. I'm sure Mary would not have minded helping Martha with her work. It was just that she wanted to use this precious time to worship her Master and listen to His teachings.

Below are some of the things that we should be taking time to do. To figure out what they are, use the letter in the alphabet that comes just before each letter in each word. For example, KFTVT would be JESUS.

1. B U U F O E Z P V U I N F F U J O H T

2. Q S B Z

3. H P U P D I V S D I

4. W J T J U U I F T J D L

5. T U V E Z T D S J Q U V S F T

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE
OFFERED FOR HOME USE BY
PARENTS TO HELP KIDS
ACHIEVE IN SCHOOL**

As concerned parents contemplate the annual back-to-school ritual, a new brochure is being made available to them on the most effective steps that can be taken in the home to help their children achieve more in the new school year through the encouragement of good values and habits.

Making the Grade: How Parents Can Help Their Children Do Better in School, produced by the American Association of Parents and Children (AAPC), contains 10 time-saving tips for parents who want to help their children do better in school through active involvement in the home. AAPC is the nation's only Independent, non-profit organization devoted to helping parents improve their children's education achievement and better manage family finances.

"We all want more out of our schools, but the truth is that learning begins in the home," said AAPC Executive Director Scott Stapf. "Our goal is to provide parents with the best resources that they can use at home to take an active hand in encouraging their children to develop strong and positive attitudes about learning and life. Parents who recognize that their child's future well-being depends on a good academic performance will want their own copy of *Making the Grade*."

Making the Grade is available for \$1.50 (postage and handling) by writing: American Association of Parents and Children, 560 Herndon Parkway, Suite 110, Herndon, VA 22070. The AAPC brochure includes a daily checklist parents can use to improve their child's performance in school.

"Parents heading into the annual back-to-school ritual should give careful thought to what they

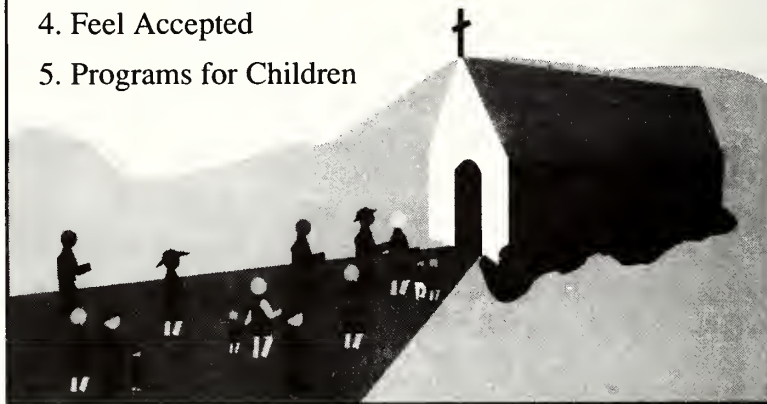
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Why Baby Boomers Return to Church

1. Like Worship Service
2. Like Pastor
3. Good Sermons
4. Feel Accepted
5. Programs for Children



Source: Boomer Survey

© Religious Facts 1990

Baby boomers are returning to church. Many young adults born between 1946 and 1964 dropped out of active religious participation when they were growing up but are now "shopping around" looking for a congregation.

What are they looking for in a church? According to a recent young adult survey, the worship service is the most cited reason for selecting a congregation. The pastor and good sermons are the next most cited reasons. But feeling accepted by the congregation is also crucial, plus programs for children. Boomers will be attracted to those congregations where church leaders and members are sensitive to their concerns for meaningful worship experiences, good programs, and an accepting environment.

are doing to ensure that their children will reach their full potential and develop a strong sense of values," Stapf said. "The U.S. Department of Education has found that 64 percent of a child's learning takes place out-

side the classroom. So, what happens in the home can spell the difference between a mediocre and a full-achieving student in school. This can be the year that makes a difference."



The October 1990 **Free Will** **Baptist**



Happenings Throughout the Church

3

Convention Embraces New Theme

16

Notes and Quotes

27

Hear the Word of the Lord

28

Children's Corner

30

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All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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CAPE FEAR

AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Smyrna Church will host the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention when it meets on October 10. The Convention theme will be "God Is Love," with John 3:16 serving as the theme Scripture. The schedule of the day's activities follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Love Lifted Me"
 - Devotion, Teresa Grubbs, the Philippines
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, Mavis Daughtry, Yelverton's Grove
 - Greetings, Linda Jackson, President
 - Hymn, "He Loves Me"

BUSINESS SESSION

- Love for the Souls of the World, Foreign Missions
- Love for Souls at Home, Home Missions
- Love for Students, Mount Olive College
- Love for the Word, Free Will Baptist Press
- Love for Children, Children's Home
- Love for the Elderly, Retirement Homes
- Love for All Ages, Cragmont

MORNING WORSHIP

- 11:15—Hymn, "My Saviour's Love"
 - Offering
 - Special Music, Host Church
 - Convention Message, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, the Philippines
 - Hymn, "Wonderful Story of Love"
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn, "Love Divine"
 - Life Membership Award
- 1:20—Miscellaneous Business

—Hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story"

2:00—Adjournment

ALBEMARLE WOMEN TO MEET

The Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet with St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City, on Saturday, October 13. The theme for the day will be "Our Choice," and Joshua 24:15 will serve as the theme Scripture. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:45—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Follow On"
 - Devotion, Mrs. Marilyn Carter
- 10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Linda Speight
 - Response, Mrs. Christine Waters
 - President's Greetings, Mrs. Eunice Sexton
 - Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
 - Appointment of Committees
- 10:30—Reading of Minutes
 - Roll Call of Auxiliaries
- 10:45—Mission News, Home and Foreign
 - Offering for Missions
 - Retirement Homes Report
 - Children's Home Report
 - Offering for Children's Home
 - Hymn, "Is Your All on the Altar?"

- 11:25—Special Music, Mrs. Sarah Windley
- 11:30—Message, Mrs. Mary Howard
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Special Music, Host Church
 - Memorial Service, Mrs. Lula Daw
- 1:15—Mount Olive College News
 - Cragmont News
- 1:30—Free Will Baptist Press News

- Board of Ministers Report
- 1:50—Youth Report, Mrs. Jean Crispin
- Committee Reports
- Announcement of Next Convention
- Miscellaneous Business
- Installation of Officers, Miss Sara Willoughby
- Benediction and Adjournment

REVIVAL SCHEDULED

It's revival time once again and Elm Grove Church, Ayden, invites you to come. The Rev. Walter Reynolds will be bringing the messages each night; there will be special singing, and a nursery will be provided. The revival will be October 1-5 at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Steve Hargrove, pastor, and the congregation hope you will attend.

HOMECOMING AND REVIVAL AT NORTHEAST CHURCH

The annual homecoming celebration will be held on Sunday, October 7, at Northeast Church. Sunday School will begin at ten o'clock, with classes for all ages under the direction of Phil Holmes, superintendent. The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of Northeast, will deliver the homecoming sermon at the eleven o'clock worship hour. The chancel choir, under the direction of Mrs. Frances Cook, will present special music. Mrs. Panice Williams will conduct memorial services for deceased members. The annual harvest offering will be given in procession. Homecoming lunch will be spread in the church's fellowship building at the noon hour.

A note-burning celebration will be held in connection with giving blessings at the noon meal. The fellowship building was built and used for homecoming in 1987 for the first time. It was completely paid for in 1989 and is valued at \$100,000. Eighty-five percent of

(Turn the Page)

the cost of the building was paid by the people in less than three years. During that time, income in the regular church and denominational support increased approximately thirty percent.

Revival services will begin on Monday night, October 8, and continue through Thursday, October 11, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Jeff Scarborough, of Smithfield, NC, will be the visiting minister. Special music by the local church and visiting musicians will be provided during the revival. Friends, former members, pastors and visitors are invited to the annual celebration.

Northeast Church is located on Northeast Church Road and Indian Springs Road, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile northeast of Mount Olive.

MARLBORO PLANS SERVICES

Revival services are scheduled at Marlboro Church Sunday, October 21, through Wednesday, October 24. The Rev. Donald Ribeiro will be the guest evangelist. Mr. Ribeiro is an ordained minister of the gospel and a medical doctor, practicing in Ayden, NC. Special music is planned nightly and services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The church will celebrate its annual homecoming service on Sunday, October 28. The day's activities will begin with Sunday School at 9:45, followed by the morning worship service at 11. Lunch will be served on the church grounds. A memorial service and singspiration will follow.

The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor, and congregation extend a cordial invitation to these services. Marlboro is located on old Highway 264, approximately one mile south of Farmville.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet with Lanwood Chapel on October 6. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. All young people and their sponsors are encouraged to attend.



Building worth \$100,000 was paid for in less than three years by the people, while increasing church and denominational giving by approximately 30 percent.

SENIOR CITIZENS BANQUET RECENTLY HELD AT NORTHEAST CHURCH



The banquet was sponsored by the youth of the church and supported by the Intermediate Adult Sunday School Class and the Friendship Class, which is the younger married people of the church.

BAPTISMAL ROBES GIVEN AND DEDICATED IN A FORMAL SERVICE IN THE EARLY ASSEMBLY OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE SPRING OF 1990



From left to right facing the audience are deacons DeWitt Grady, Billy Johnson, James Holmes; trustee, Johnny Sutton; Tammy Keel, youth director, model; Bobby Best, deacon; and the Rev. A. B. Bryan, minister.

**YOUTH FROM NORTHEAST ATTENDED YOUTH CONFERENCE,
Week of July 22, 1990**



Ten youth from Northeast attended Cragmont during the week of July 22-27. They are pictured with the bus driver, Dr. David Hines and others as they board the bus at Mount Olive Centre in Mount Olive, on July 23.



Aimee Weathersby

**WINTERVILLE YOUTH
RECOGNIZED**

Aimee Weathersby, an eighth grade student of A. G. Cox School and member of Winterville Church, was recognized by her pastor, Doug Skinner, on Sunday morning, August 19, 1990. Aimee was presented a certificate and letter of appreciation from Mr. Hal Garland, administrator of Greenville Villa Nursing Home, for her dedication and cheerful giving of approximately 288 hours of volunteer service this summer.

The letter stated, "Young people offer something to our elderly that promotes a bond between young and old bringing memories of the past to the future." It continued with saying, "Nothing is more valuable than a person's time, it takes a very special and caring person to volunteer their time in a nursing home."

Aimee encourages other people to do the same and relates that they will be blessed. We at Winterville Church are very proud of Aimee and her special ministry.

COMPLETES COURSE

On August 24, Chaplain (First Lieutenant) K. Alan Lamm graduated from the Chaplains Officer Basic Course at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. This three month class consisted of courses in military customs and courtesies, preaching, counseling, weddings, and funerals in a military setting. Chaplain Lamm represents the Original Free Will Baptist Church in the US Army Reserve. He serves one weekend per month and two weeks per summer with the 362nd Quartermaster Battalion headquartered in Kinston, NC.

A SUMMER WITH STEVIE

by Fred Baker

What does a teenager do on the mission field during his summer vacation from school? Well, that would depend on who the teenager was and where the mission field was located. For Stevie Baker, the summer vacation between his junior and senior years of school consisted of eight weeks packed with fun, play and work.

Stevie's summer vacation was from June 9 through August 6. His senior classes began on August 7. The first week of his vacation, he traveled south of our home in Puerto Princesa City four hours by land and then two hours by sea to reach a tribal area where the Green family from Canada work as translators with Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL). Their children are classmates of Stevie at Faith Academy. He enjoyed a week with the Greens, swimming at the beach, playing around and observing their work. He had the luxury of flying out of the tribe on a small mission airplane, which took less than an hour to reach our home.

The next two weeks he repaired the gutters on our home, replaced all of the screen wire on our windows and spent time with Kim, his sister, who was visiting from the States. They had a lot of catching up to do.

(Turn the Page)

It was then time for Kim to return to the States, so we all went to Manila to see her off and to purchase all of Stevie's clothes and school supplies for the next school year. Stevie knew what he wanted and the city of Manila, so he was able to find what he needed in a few days.

Back home on Palawan again, Stevie used the last part of his vacation to sand and repaint our jeep. He did an excellent job. I bought some bad blue paint that turned purple when it dried. Oh well, no one is perfect. We did get some more good paint and resprayed the jeep. It is now blue.

Did someone call this vacation? Well, to be honest, Stevie did, along with all the above, manage one day a week at the beach, one day of motorcycle riding and the reading of ten books.

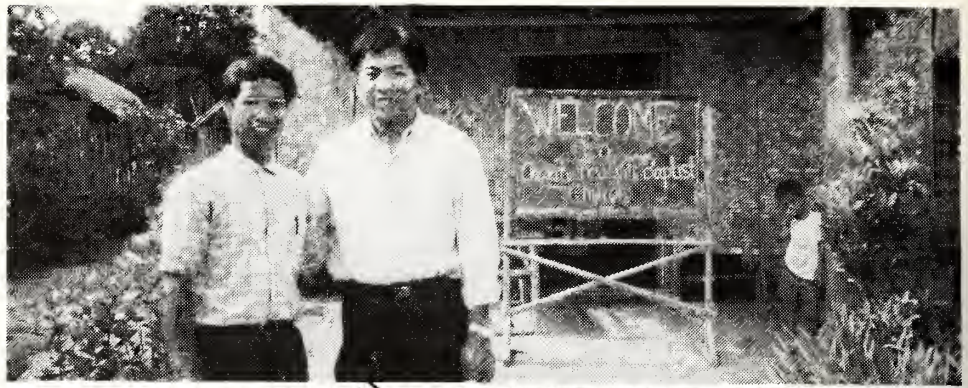
August 6 came all too early. With everything all packed, we took him to the Puerto Princesa Airport to board the airplane to return to Manila for school. Where did the summer go? But then I thought, where did the years go. He is now a young man going off to his senior year of high school.

We praise the Lord for giving Stevie to our family. Please pray for him as he works on his senior year of high school, his spiritual development, and his direction for life.

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

by Arlita Peralta

"Go ye therefore and teach all nations . . ." (Matthew 28:19-20) continues to serve as the goal of the Free Will Baptist Church of the Philippines. We are ever striving to build strong churches. On July 29, 1990, the Mission Director, Diosdado Guian, the Administration Director, Pio dela Rosa, and the Field Secretary, Fred Baker, traveled to Northern Palawan District I to conduct turnover ceremonies in Bethel Free Will Baptist Church located in Calawag, Taytay, and in Chari-



ty Free Will Baptist Church located in Itangil, Dumaran.

These two churches actually exchanged their pastors. The Rev. Leonardo Buison had served Bethel since its beginning in 1985 and now assumes the pastorate of Charity Church. The Rev. Fidel Presto had served Charity Church since its beginning in 1986 and now assumes the pastorate of Bethel Church. Each church commissioned its out-going pastor to his new work and received its new pastor through a special prayer.

The two services were conducted on the same day. Sunday morning, we were at Charity and Sunday evening at Bethel. Fred Baker brought the message entitled: "The Church That Changes the World," using 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 and Ephesians 1:22-23 as the Scripture. The congregations received a good laugh as he tried to greet them in Illongo, their native dialect. It was a challenging message. It challenged the people to be in partnership in God's great work. The services were attended by about 70 people at each service.

After the commissioning prayer, the Mission Director ex-

plained the new partnership agreement approved by the Board of Trustees. The new partnership agreement provides that 30% of the local church tithes and offerings will remain in the local church, 40% will be allotted for the support of the pastor and 30% will be allotted for the development of the National Church. The 40% for pastoral support and the 30% for national development will be sent to the national office for proper recording and distribution. The Mission Department will then pay the pastors. The agreement was signed by the head of the deacons, the pastor, the administration director and the mission director. For Bethel Church, Deacon Arturo Aspa and the new pastor, the Rev. Fidel Presto signed the agreement. For Charity Church, Deacon Valeriano Magarce and the new pastor, the Rev. Leo Buison, signed the agreement.

I challenge each of you to pray for these two churches and their new pastors. Pray that God will bless with salvation for the lost and the development of His church.

MINISTRY TO THE CHILDREN OF MEXICO



The Rev. Juan Montoya is one of our pastors in Piedras Negras, Coah. A program for the children was started in the home of one of the families of the church where he pastors. The children are taught songs and Bible stories. We thank the Lord that not only have these children heard the gospel, but their parents have also. This opens a door to go into other homes and share with them the good news of salvation. We consider this ministry as extending arms or arms of outreach where there can begin new missions so that the Kingdom of God may grow.

We ask your prayers, brethren, for the programs that the churches of Mexico have begun.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE'S FALL SEMESTER UNDERWAY

Mount Olive College launched its 1990-91 fall semester with an activity-packed schedule of events. The annual President's Dinner highlighted the faculty's official schedule and freshmen moving into the dorms signaled the beginning of the students' return.

"Expanding Horizons" was the theme for fall faculty conference. A faculty committee reported on the College's first study abroad program, "Summer 91 in England." Plans were set for the new computer information system, a follow-up of last year's visual communications program. Inauguration of The Mount Olive College Press, a regional press to serve local writers, was set in motion.

Another of the week's highlights included Dr. Jamil Shami's presentation to the faculty on international education. Dr. Shami, a former dean of students at Mount Olive, is the academic consultant to Saudi Arabia. He will serve as a consultant to MOC as it plans an International Studies Center.

The College campus shifted into high gear on Sunday, August 19, when the freshmen moved into the dorms—upperclassmen soon followed. Within the week, students were registered and classes had begun in earnest. Advising sessions, testing, seminars, and scholar and work study meetings filled any spare time.

The enrollment for this fall is 772 students, 563 on the main campus and 209 in the extension program at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, Goldsboro.

Special activities for the students included a freshmen picnic; the President's Reception; a group challenge course, cookout, and vespers service at Eagles Nest; a varsity soccer scrimmage; the "World's Largest Banana Split Party"; a "chalk artist" program in Rodgers Chapel

(Turn the Page)

by the Rev. Damon E. Wyatt of Portsmouth, Virginia; and convocation, the formal gathering of the College family.

Mount Olive College's academic year has begun—a year of new horizons—a year to prepare its students not only for the world of work, but for the world of ideas as well.

FALL CONVOCATION: THE CHALLENGE OF GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS

*Dr. Pepper Worthington
Writer-in-Residence
Mount Olive College*

Heat, humidity, and homework did not thwart the enthusiasm of students and faculty gathered in College Hall, August 28, 1990, for Fall Convocation at Mount Olive College.

James Elliott, president of the SGA, read Proverbs 8:1-11, his voice firm as he said, "Wisdom is better than jewels."

Warmth and beauty followed as Ms. Irene Weldon, professor of Fine Arts, sang Bach's "Jesus, Shepherd Be Thou Near Us" from *Cantata 208*. Bach's words of wisdom soared through College Hall in Ms. Weldon's rendition: "As we walk along life's way, let thy love direct and guide us."

Shifting gears, her face softened as she added a light touch to the music. With a joyous smile she sang, "This little light of mine, I'm going to make it shine. Everywhere I go, I'm going to let it shine. All through the night, I'm going to let it shine." When she hit high C, silence swept across College Hall.

"What is the concept of convocation?" asked Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. "Convocation goes back more than 3,000 years to ancient Israel. It was a calling together of the people on important occasions, so they could share a community experience and great moments in life."

As such, Fall Convocation is the time when students and faculty

gather for the community experience of the beginning of a new college year together. All are like passengers on a ship, like a college family, given a short space in time to become a part of each other. The college time must be devoted to developing capabilities.

"Education is the difference between what you are and what you can become," declared Dr. Raper as he looked at the Class of 1994, now the entering freshmen. "We have three priorities here at Mount Olive College," he said. "Our first priority is our students. We seek to open the doors of educational opportunity for you. Our second priority is our students. Helping you obtain the best education you are capable



MOC Class of 1994 inducted at Fall Convocation—Mount Olive College's freshmen stand before the College family as Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, vice president for administrative services, inducts the new students as the Class of 1994. "Today we welcome a special group of people into our community," Dr. Jeanes said. "Freshmen, today you commence a journey toward excellence, a journey that will have a second commencement in 1994." The ceremony, one of welcome and induction, is the beginning of a tradition that will take place each Fall Convocation at Mount Olive College (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

of acquiring is what we are all about."

He paused. Students focused on his words.

"Our third priority is our students. Our concern is for the kind of persons you become."

To draw the students closer to his educational emphasis, Dr. Raper recognized some of the

specific concerns of the freshmen class. He identified many students' uncertainty about career goals. He talked about problems of low self-esteem, homes under stress, limited finances, varying levels of maturity, and fear of failure.

Boldly he insisted, "One of our greatest handicaps today is the absence of clear and stable values. We as human beings want to reduce everything to our size. We try to trim everything to make it fit us. We even try to cut God down to our size. If we reduce God to our size, then He would no longer be God. Then we'd be alone in a terrible, frightening universe."

To confront the need to think in larger terms rather than in reductive patterns, Dr. Raper emphasized the need for friendliness and global awareness. He described the legacy Robert E. Lee left Washington College. Lee made it a policy that students and faculty would speak to everyone they met. Friendliness became a tradition of Washington College.

"It would not cost one dollar to make Mount Olive College the friendliest college in North Carolina," proposed Dr. Raper. "I challenge us to do so. We must develop a concern for other people and for a quality of life."

Not only friendliness is needed in the educational process but also a global consciousness.

"We are all part of a larger entity," said Dr. Raper. "The world today is different. The wealth of nations is no longer flowing to our shores. Our wealth is flowing to other nations. Our economy is no longer national; it is global. Pollution knows no national boundaries. AIDS may have begun in Africa but today it is a worldwide disease. No longer is it enough to be a citizen of the United States. We are citizens of the world. The purpose of education is to help us understand this world and to help us become responsible citizens."

Everyone in College Hall felt the impact of the Middle East, the confusion of international relations, the complexity of diplomacy, the threat of war.

Fervor rose in Dr. Raper's voice as he declared, "The majority of the world's people do not speak English. The majority of the world's people are not white. The majority of the world's people do not adhere to the Christian religion. An increasing number of people in the world do not like the United States. They may be glad to have our resources, but they no longer pay homage to us. The majority of the world's people are not like us. We must, therefore, study global cultural values so we can understand others and not just expect them to understand us."

To illustrate his challenge for global consciousness, Dr. Raper described a bug that lived in the corner of a room. Within this room was the most beautiful bug in the world, but this bug never came out of its corner. This bug never knew it lived in a room which had the most beautiful rug in the world.

"How many of us have a bug's view of life?" inquired Dr. Raper.

Then with the conviction of a man aware of the tensions of global life, he asked, "How big is your world?"

Firmly he answered, "It is as big as you are. The main purpose of education is to help you lift your horizons and give you a vision of life that is as big as God himself."



Former dean visits—President W. Burkette Raper, Dr. and Mrs. Jamil Shami, and their youngest daughter inspect Mount Olive College's olive tree during a recent visit. The tree was a gift of Dr. Shami's father who lives on the West Bank near Jerusalem. A former dean of students at MOC, Dr. Shami has agreed to be a consultant for the planned International Studies Center (photo courtesy Mount Olive Tribune).



Gurganus family at Mount Olive College picnic—The Gary Gurganus family of Sneads Ferry talks with Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, during the annual freshmen picnic. Pictured, l-r, are Tiffany, Mrs. Sharon Gurganus, the Rev. Gurganus, Nikki (in front), Candida, and Dr. Raper. Candida, a graduate of Havelock High School, is a new freshman at MOC. She and her family were among 345 freshmen, family members, and College personnel who attended the annual picnic, a part of freshman orientation. The family attends Verona Church in Onslow County (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

FOURTH ANNUAL "NIGHT OUT"

Many people use the term "night out" to mean a variety of things, but to the children and staff at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home it means fun, laughter and games. The past four summers have ended with a special evening designated as the "Night Out."

In the beginning, it was a simple evening with watermelon eating contests, a slide presentation and fellowship in the center of campus, lasting until after the street lights came on. The children were told that how they handled the evening would determine whether or not there would be another "Night Out" on campus. Each year the children have enjoyed a growth in this event—the result of their good behavior the previous year.

(Turn the Page)



On August 22, everyone met in Whitley Center to begin our "Night Out" with relays and a volleyball game between staff and children. Age won the game— young age that is! Some of the staff members grilled hot dogs for a campus picnic enjoyed by all. Talent was abundant in Heritage Hall as the children in each cottage presented entertainment for the talent contest. Winners were as follows: Best All Round, Central Cottage; Most Creative, Deans Cottage; Most Humorous, Rodgers Cottage; and Best Acting, State Cottage. Hollywood, look out for these upcoming stars! Presentation of the "prestigious" Tin Can Awards for humorous

deeds observed during the past year was held next. Some of the staff and children never realized until that night that anyone had knowledge of their activities. It was good to laugh together at life's little mistakes. Refreshment time was next in the recreation center, where everyone enjoyed an ice cream cone. Staff and children played checkers, video games, board games, listened to music and fellowshiped together. The night ended with a late evening swim.

Our "Night Out" was jammed packed full of fun and games, enjoyed by all; and we are already looking forward to next summer and our "Night Out."

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HELD

The annual Membership Meeting of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation was held on Tuesday, September 4, 1990, at 10 a.m. at Ayden Church. Darrell Horne, president of the Board of Directors, called the meeting of order. The Rev. Chris Singleton led the invocation, after which Mr. Horne welcomed everyone and expressed appreciation for Ayden Church allowing the membership to meet in its facilities.

Minutes of the 1989 membership meeting were read by the secretary and approved. Board members then introduced themselves.

The Rev. Leon Harris gave a report on the purpose and work of the Literature Committee. Mr. Harris' report was followed by discussion of a proposed by-law change. Because of renovations made to the Press building (to facilitate the Headquarters Complex), the Board Room is no longer large enough to facilitate meetings involving large numbers. Upon proper motion, Article II, Section I, was changed to read as follows: The annual meeting of the members of this corporation shall be held on Tuesday after the first Sunday of September of each year at 10:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the members shall assemble, at a location to be determined by the Board of Directors.

President Horne reported to the group that the Board, in its February meeting, had set a temporary ceiling of 2,000 on the number of memberships that could be issued. The action was a stop-gap measure, in effect until the membership meeting, and was the recommendation of the Board of Directors. Upon proper motion it was decided that the Constitution and By-laws of the Foundation would be studied for possible wording changes (regarding Convention affiliation)

and that a ceiling of 2,000 memberships would be set for the present time.

The Revs. Craig Simmons and W. S. Burns were elected to serve on the Board.

Press Board Members

Following is a list of the present Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation.

President
Vice President
Secretary
Assistant Secretary

Mr. Carroll Hawkins (92)
The Rev. Leon Harris (94)
Ms. Gaye Renfrow (93)
Ms. Lynette Sumerlin (91)
The Rev. Carlee Stallard (91)
Mr. Jack Thompson (92)
Mr. Gary Burbage (94)
The Rev. W. S. Burns (95)
The Rev. Craig Simmons (95)

Eastern
Central
Western
Cape Fear
Piedmont
Pee Dee
Albemarle
Albemarle
Western

CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN SEED CLUB

Pennies became a difficult coin to keep recently at Marlboro Church. The children of the church collected them as their Seed Club contribution to the Home Missions and Evangelism ministry of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.



Shown in the top picture are Jonathan Sutton, Lauren Sutton, Jennifer Sutton, Brett Carraway and Megan Summerlin giving their pennies to their pastor, Scott Sowers.



Seen here with their Seed Club certificates are Emily Blalock, Sharon Cale, Lauren Brock, Lauren Sutton, Jessica Joyner, Eric Baker and Josh Blalock. (Participating but not pictured are Karr Walston, Robin Tyson, Amanda Hinson, Tammy Little, and Erin Carraway.)

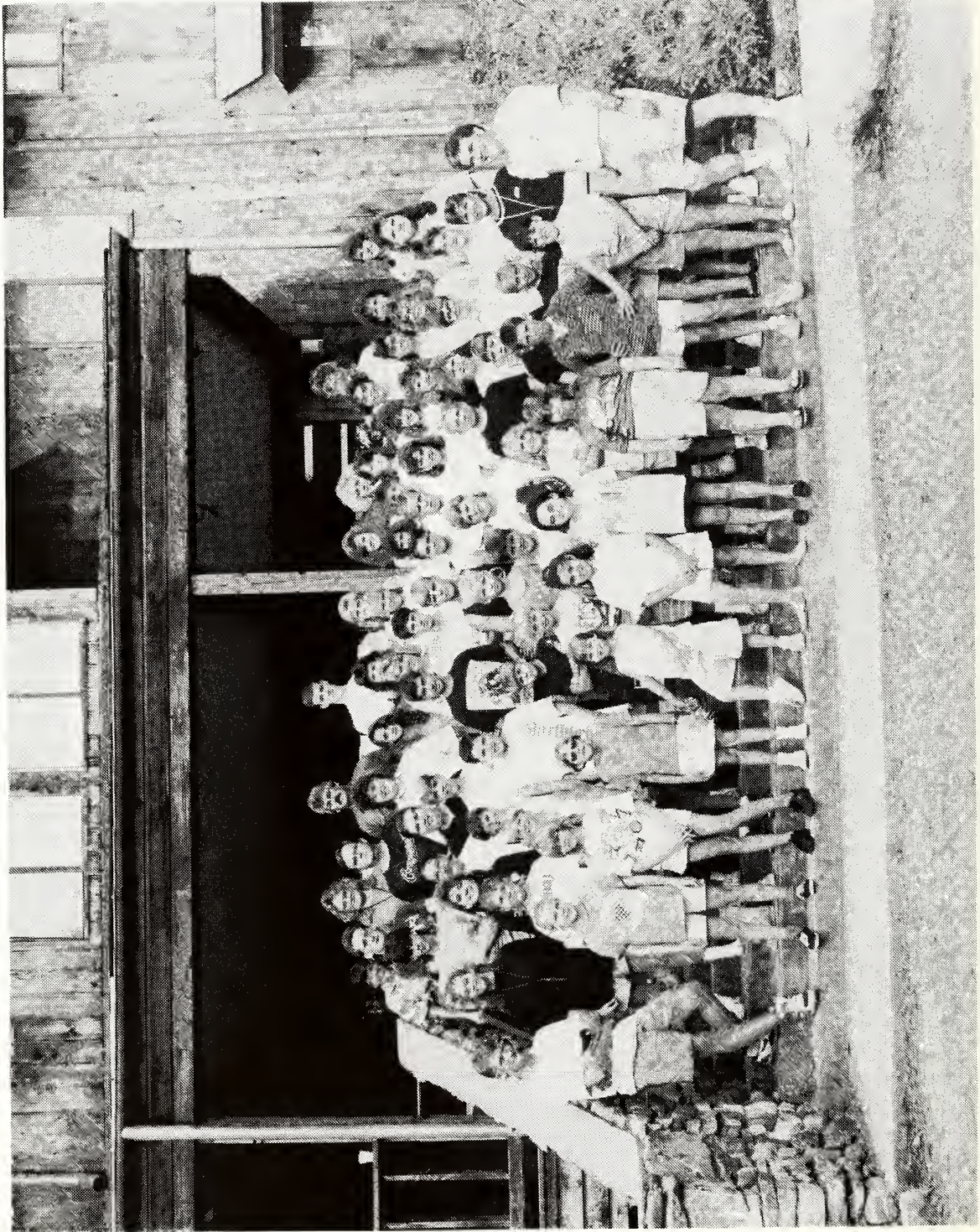
The Seed Club provides children with a feeling of involvement in the Home Missions ministry. For information about this program contact the Rev. David C. Hansley, executive director, Home Missions and Evangelism, Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513; 746-4963.

COMING EVENTS AT MOC You're invited!

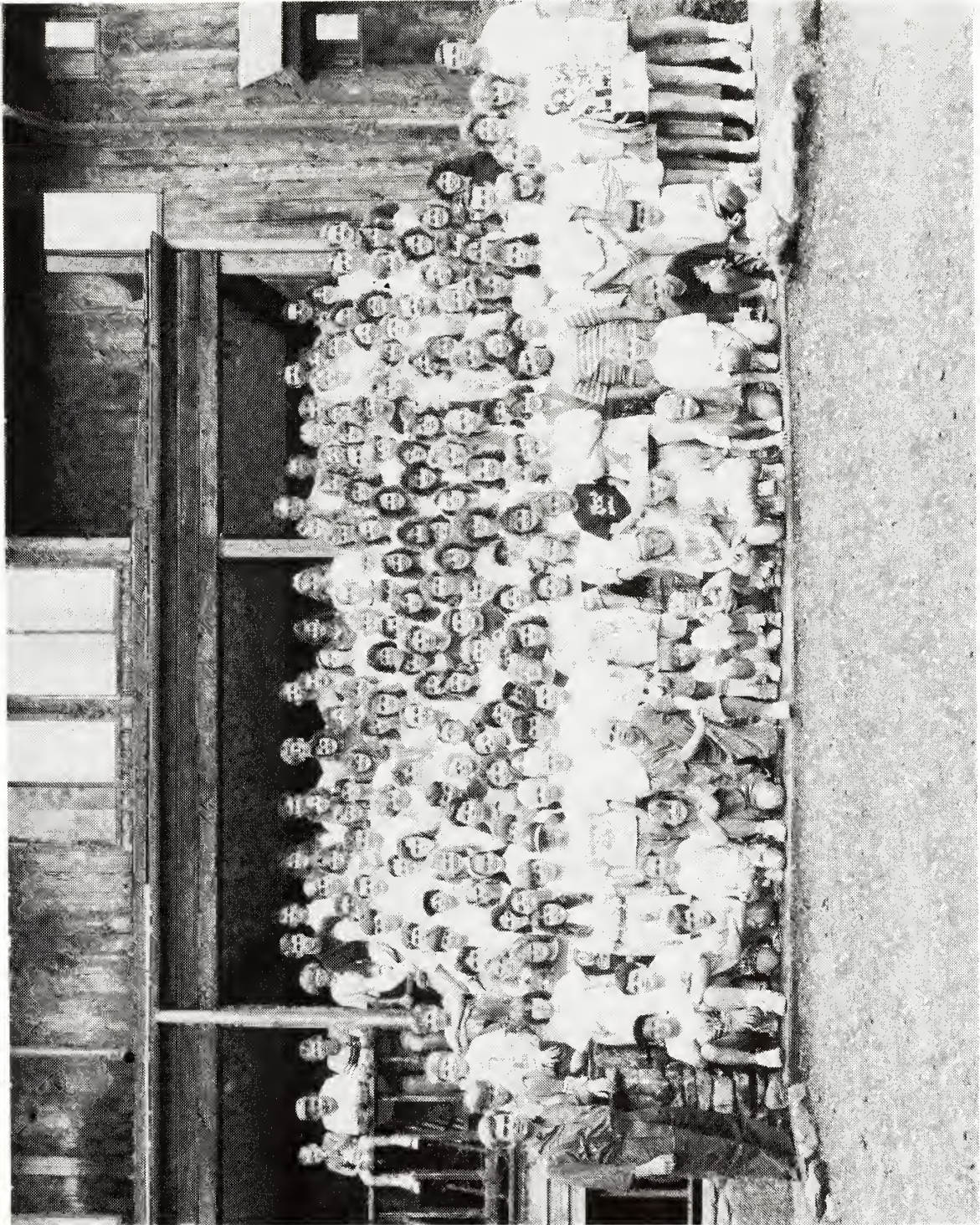
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|-------------------------|--|
| Thursday
October 25 | Faculty Recital,
Miss Irene Weldon, 8
p.m., Downtown
Auditorium |
| Tuesday
October 30 | Chapel program, Dr.
K. David Hines, 11
a.m., Rodgers
Chapel |
| Thursday
November 8 | "Communism in the
Soviet Union and
Eastern Europe,"
Dr. Joel Schwartz,
speaker, 7:30 p.m.,
College Hall |
| Tuesday
November 20 | Founders Day, 11
a.m., Rodgers
Chapel |
| Tuesday
November 27 | Mount Olive College
Press Inauguration,
7 p.m., College Hall
(reservations re-
quired) |
| Tuesday
December 4 | "Messiah," 8 p.m.,
MOC Department of
Music and visiting
orchestra, First
Baptist Church,
Mount Olive |
| Wednesday
December 5 | North Carolina Sym-
phony: Holiday Pops
Concert, 8 p.m., Col-
lege Hall |
| Sunday
December 9 | "Messiah," 4 p.m.,
MOC Department of
Music and visiting
orchestra, First
Baptist Church,
Mount Olive |

For more information, contact Patti O'Donoghue, director of Public Information, at 919 658-2502.

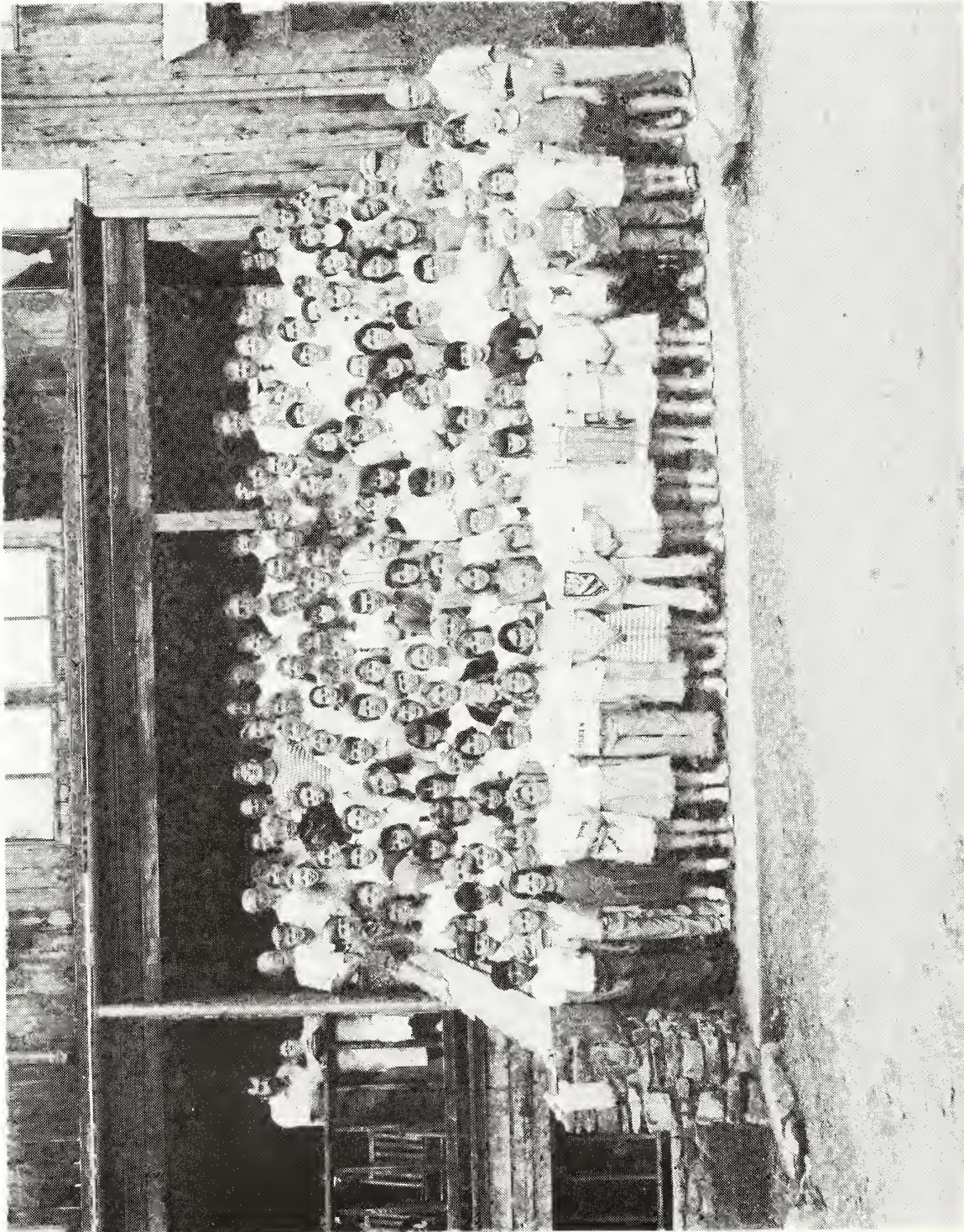
**GENERAL YOUTH
CONFERENCE II**
Cragmont Assembly
Directed by the Rev. Chris Singleton
July 16-21



**GENERAL YOUTH
CONFERENCE I**
Cragmont Assembly
Directed by the Rev. David Hines
July 23-28



**YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE
CONFERENCE**
Cragmont Assembly
Directed by the Rev. James Gur-
ganus
July 30—August 4



BIBLE BOWL STUDY GUIDE

The State Youth Convention is the scene of many youth competitions, one of which is Bible Bowl. The Study Guide for the 1991 competition has been prepared and is as follows.

1991—BIBLE BOWL—GOSPEL OF JOHN OUTLINE OF JOHN

Part One: The Incarnation of the Son of God (1:1-18)

- I. The Deity of Christ 1:1-2
- II. The Preincarnate Work of Christ 1:3-5
- III. The Forerunner of Christ 1:6-8
- IV. The Rejection of Christ 1:9-11
- V. The Acceptance of Christ 1:12-13
- VI. The Incarnation of Christ 1:14-18

Part Two: The Presentation of the Son of God (1:19—4:54)

- I. The Presentation of Christ by John the Baptist. . 1:19-34
- II. The Presentation of Christ to John's Disciples . . 1:35-51
- III. The Presentation of Christ in Galilee 2:1-12
- IV. The Presentation of Christ in Judaea 2:13—3:36
- V. The Presentation of Christ in Samaria 4:1-42
- VI. The Presentation of Christ in Galilee 4:43-54

Part Three: The Opposition to the Son of God (5:1—12:50)

- I. The Opposition at the Feast in Jerusalem 5:1-47
- II. The Opposition During Passover Time in Galilee 6:1-71
- III. The Opposition at the Feast of Tabernacles in
Jerusalem 7:1—10:21
- IV. The Opposition at the Feast of Dedication in
Jerusalem 10:22-42
- V. The Opposition at Bethany 11:1—12:11
- VI. The Opposition at Jerusalem 12:12-50

Part Four: The Preparation of the Disciples by the Son of God (13:1—17:26)

- I. The Preparation in the Upper Room 13:1—14:31
- II. The Preparation on the Way to the Garden . . 15:1—17:26

Part Five: The Crucifixion and Resurrection of the Son of God (18:1—21:25)

- I. The Rejection of Christ 18:1—19:16
- II. The Crucifixion of Christ 19:17-37
- III. The Burial of Christ 19:38-42
- IV. The Resurrection of Christ 20:1-10
- V. The Appearance of Christ 20:11—21:25

MEMORY VERSES

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. John 1:12 | 7. John 11:25-26 |
| 2. John 3:16-17 | 8. John 15:12 |
| 3. John 4:14 | 9. John 16:33 |
| 4. John 5:24 | 10. John 20:21 |
| 5. John 8:31 | 11. John 20:31 |
| 6. John 10:10 | |

The above Study Guide is an outline of John. All information must come from the verses cited not from any other Scriptures or Books of the Bible. Questions may include anything from Scriptures given. Questions should ask for factual information only and should give enough information within the question that only one answer is possible. ALL QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND MEMORY VERSES WILL BE TAKEN FROM *THE KING JAMES VERSION OF THE BIBLE*.

Run-off for District Winners will be May 4, 1991, in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive.



CONVENTION EMBRACES NEW THEME

"Hear the Word of the Lord" Many were the times during the 1990 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists that ministers, delegates and visitors were challenged to "Hear the Word of the Lord." Many were the times that Original Free Will Baptists were challenged to commit themselves to the cause of Christ and the task at hand. Attendance was better than in recent years and a spirit of harmony prevailed on the Convention floor.

Following are highlights of the various ministry reports given.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Foreign Missions is your doorway of ministry to 95% of the world's population. To support this awesome task, Free Will Baptists only spend approximately 5 cents out of every dollar given in our churches. (This is an averaged figure of all giving. Many churches give far more than 5 cents to the dollar, while many others give far less, all the way down to nothing.) The remaining 95 cents is spent here in the United States in various ways and ministries.

With that overall average of 5 cents per dollar given in our churches, the Board of Foreign Missions does the following:

1. Operates a FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE in the Headquarters in Ayden, with only two people. This office handles all missions business, promotion, contact with each field and with the churches. (All other funding is directed toward our foreign fields.)
2. IN INDIA, a land of 835 million people, we operate 26 elementary schools with an enrollment of 2,900 students. We can only provide basic education and basic materials for their education. We cannot feed or clothe them. We support 47 teachers, 36 pastors and 4 administrative personnel. We provide aid for the most needy. Bibles, tracts and literature are provided for distribution. We plant churches, build buildings, provide transportation needs, Bible training for our workers, hold youth camps and sponsor auxiliary projects.
3. IN THE PHILIPPINES, a land of 62 million people, we operate a four-year Bible college. We pay the staff and teachers. We operate the kitchen, which is a major expense. We provide scholarships for the students during their four years of study. We support a total of 71 workers, plus 3 missionary families in the Philippines. We provide funds for lots and buildings. We operate a printing shop and relief department. We hold yearly youth camps. We provide Bibles and literature. We support the Headquarters Office of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines. We plant churches and also provide transportation needs.
4. IN MEXICO, a land of 90 million people, we support 13 pastors, provide Bibles and tracts, Bible training, transportation needs, church planting efforts and have a loan fund for church buildings.

****Through our Foreign Missions program, we support a total of 179 people in ministry. We do all of this with an overall average of 5 cents out of every dollar given in our churches. Friends, that is all that we are spending to reach the rest of the world with the gospel.**

5. NEW FIELD DEVELOPMENT: We are presently working toward opening a new field in Eastern Europe in 1991. This is surely a step of faith for you can gather from the information above that our finances are stretched about as far as they can go. We operate every field as closely as possible. There are many other things that we would like to do, but we cannot because of finances.

Special Projects:

INDIA:

- (1) Completion of the church renovation project
 - a. to finish the building—\$3,991.78
 - b. to construct the boundary wall—19,875
- (2) To trade the jeep for a safer vehicle—\$3,000; this vehicle has major defects that make it unsafe to use as a major means of transportation.

MEXICO:

Copy machine—\$2,000

PHILIPPINES:

- (1) \$98 a month for a weekly radio program in Cebu City.
- (2) \$454.54 to purchase a lot for the Iraway Free Will Baptist Church.

****These are special projects that we ask for above your regular missions giving. Please do not earmark regular funds for these special projects.**

Recommendations:

1. That this report to the 1990 State Convention be adopted.
2. That the Convention encourage every member to faithfully pray for revival and the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
3. That the months of December and March continue to be designated as "Foreign Missions Month" in our State Convention calendar.
4. That the Convention support our 1990-91 budget (\$373,351).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

During the 1989-90 school year, a total of 1,528 students enrolled in programs of study offered by Mount Olive College (681 in on-campus programs and 847 in our extension program at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, Goldsboro).

Development Into a Regional College

One of our major goals is to develop Mount Olive into a strong regional four-year liberal arts Christian college. There is no church-related college east of Mount Olive and this location gives us

State Convention Update

an opportunity to provide leadership for the cultural, religious, and economic as well as the educational development of our region.

In February, the College hosted a Project EAST program which brought to our campus hundreds of business, church, civic, literary, and educational leaders to study the trends, problems, and future of this area. Our principal speaker, Dr. William Friday, president emeritus of the University of North Carolina, spoke on the relationship between education and economics in eastern North Carolina. The impact of this event upon Mount Olive College was significant and our plans are to make this program an annual event.

Campus Development

We urgently need to move all operations in the original building (food services, bookstore, business offices, maintenance, music and art departments, and the auditorium) to the main campus, but provisions for food services is most **critical**. The general welfare of the College and our future enrollment require that **immediate** steps be taken to provide our students with suitable dining facilities. To this end, we are committed to beginning construction of a cafeteria on the main campus during 1991.

It is also vital that the remaining functions on the Downtown Campus be transferred at the earliest possible date. The obsolescence of the old elementary school building is a severe restraint on the quality of our education services and administrative efficiency.

Road to Excellence Fund

In July 1989, Mount Olive College officially launched a five-year \$10 million campaign designed to enrich its educational program, increase

the amount of scholarship aid available for worthy and qualified students and to finance new facilities. At the end of the first year, gifts and campaign commitments had reached \$4.2 million.

To maintain the educational progress of the College and to assure its future development, it is essential that the goal of this campaign not only be reached but exceeded. Although this campaign will extend to 1994, we expect to secure **commitments** to underwrite the \$10 million goal by the end of 1991. We must then go beyond this goal if we are to make Mount Olive College the kind and quality of college the Free Will Baptist Church and eastern North Carolina need.

Gift Support - 1989-90

Direct gifts and bequests for all purposes and from all publics during the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1990, totaled \$1,815,569. Of this amount, \$249,977 was from Free Will Baptist churches and denominational organizations and \$569,317 was from individual Free Will Baptists, making a total of \$819,294 from church-related sources.

In addition to direct gifts and bequests, the College received \$229,500 in deferred gifts which will pay income for life to the donors, after which the assets will become the property of the College. The grand total of direct and deferred gifts was \$2,045,069.

Endowment

In the spring of this year, Mount Olive College met the requirements for an Endowment Challenge Grant from the U.S. Office of Education in the amount of \$434,422. Endowment resources of the College now exceed \$5 million. In order to make Mount Olive the kind of College we aspire for it to be, we need to make a commitment to

WORDS WORTH REPEATING

After the 1990 session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the following comment was made: "If you are going to call me anything, call me brother" (the Rev. Phil Wood).

build the endowment to \$25 million by the year 2000.

Annual College Dinners

The 18 annual church dinners for the support of Mount Olive College will continue this year under the committed leadership of Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss. Gift support through the 1989 dinners totaled \$292,139. There were 1,080 Bridge Builders (donors of \$100 or more).

The goal for the 1990 dinners is \$315,000.

Fortieth Anniversary

Next year, 1991, will mark the fortieth anniversary of the chartering of Mount Olive College. A major event is being planned to commemorate this occasion.

Recommendations

1. That the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists accept this report and endorse its goals; and
2. That the Convention recommend to member churches that they observe February and July as "Christian Education" months on behalf of Mount Olive College.

Mount Olive College encourages Free Will Baptists to provide the following gift support during the 1990-91 fiscal year:

	General Budget	College Hall and Student Services Building
Churches and Church Organizations	\$300,000	\$200,000
Individuals	300,000	200,000
	<u>\$600,000</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME Program Information

This past year we cared for a total of 58 children in our residential program. Each child has his or her own life story. Because their lives have been unstable, up-rooted, left alone, their dreams shattered, their hope gone, restoring their lives is a very sensitive task.

The development of a comprehensive program is a very time-consuming task. It is a task that is never complete. There is always the need to improve. To develop a program to meet human needs is complex, because we are sensitive creatures. For several years now you have seen our program listed as follows:

- * Preparation for Independent Living (ages 16-19)
- * Adolescent Development (ages 12-15)
- * Supplemental Parenting (ages 5-11)
- * Family Clarification (all children)

These programs are strongly defined and have been in operation for a number of years. But be sure each year the creative process forges on to make them better and to meet the needs of each child we serve.

Operational Highlights

The following is a partial report of services and statistics of your child care ministry:

Children served	58
Daily average	33
Group care	13
Independent	25
Adolescent development	20
Higher Education	0
Cottages operated	4
Number of inquiries	150
Referrals	70
Other cases handled	143

(Turn the Page)

State Convention Update

Medical and dental services	176
Psychological	706
Conferences	
Family	296
Child	2,226
Department Social Services	463
Individuals	81
Development training	24
Workshops	18
Representation, Churches/special programs/etc.	83
Special events	17
Campus visitors	1,346
Family seminars	7
Literature mailed	39,303
Counties served	20
Outreach library materials supplied	71

Physical Improvements

- * State Cottage—Roof recovered, A/C gas pack unit, new subfloor and floor covering kitchen/dining room.
- * Administration Building—A/C Unit, floor covering, air barrier/entrance, new computer, furniture.
- * Roof recovered—storehouse, Albemarle (partial)
- * Restored 1978 Chevrolet Van
- * 2 Dishwashers
- * Electric range
- * Painted swimming pool
- * Additional sidewalk
- * New Ice Machine

Recommendations

The following recommendations are submitted for consideration by the Convention:

1. That the 1990 report to the Convention be adopted.
2. That the Convention continue to designate May and November as Children's Home months, and

recommend that our churches observe Children's Home Days on November 11, 1990, and May 19, 1991.

3. That the Convention and representing churches continue to pray for the ministry of the Children's Home.
4. That the Convention support our 1990-91 budget, (\$286,000).

FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES

With gratitude Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes expresses its thanks to each church, friend and related denominational organization for its prayers and gift support for our ministry to the retired of our beloved denomination. You continue to be our only avenue of financial support. Without you we could not continue to operate.

It is important that the delegates, visitors and ministers attending this Convention assume the responsibility of encouraging their church and its auxiliaries to include Retirement Homes in its schedule of denominational support.

We seek to provide community-based homes/apartments, cash payments and placement institutional services for our retired laity and clergy. In return, those who qualify for either of these services pay 30% of their retirement income to Retirement Homes. The denomination has to subsidize each person in our care because their 30% pay is not enough to cover their cost of home/apartment, utilities, appliances, repairs and yard maintenance.

People in Our Care

Mrs. Rose Bowen, Ayden; Mrs. Gertrude Ballard, Autumn Home Care, Selma; the Rev. James Evans, Seven Springs; Mrs. Thelma Rulli, Middlesex; Miss Bonnie Farmer, Middlesex; Mr. Oliver Dunn, Ayden; the Rev. and Mrs. Ed

Taylor, Smithfield; Mrs. Chaston Davis, Bladenboro; Mrs. Essie Huggins, Middlesex; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Patterson, Middlesex; Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton, Wilson; and Kaye Jones, Ayden.

Property Rented
Middlesex, NC.

Persons Receiving Cash Payments
Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton, Mrs. Chaston Davis.

Person Receiving Institutional Care
Mrs. Gertrude Ballard.

Recommendations

1. We recommend the Convention designate January 1991 as Retirement Homes Month; Sunday, January 27, as Retirement Homes Sunday.
2. We recommend the Convention approve our operating budget for July 1, 1990—June 30, 1991 (\$92,344).
3. We recommend the Convention encourage each of its member churches to include Retirement Homes in its schedule of denominational gift support.
4. We recommend each Convention pastor call the ministry of Retirement Homes to the attention of his congregation each Sunday in January 1991 by remembering it in prayer and encourage gift support on January 27, 1991.

HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

We must "Hear the Word of the Lord" and take Home Missions and Evangelism seriously if we as Original Free Will Baptists desire to grow the church for Christ!

As your Board of Home Missions and Evangelism has developed its theme for the 90s, "VISION 2000," we allowed the issues of evangelism to become our determined efforts. We encourage you and your church to join with us in:

- A. A renewed compassion for lost men,
- B. An awareness of the uniqueness of Christ,
- C. Developing faith with power,
- D. Remembering God's intended purpose for every individual,
- E. The challenge by Christ to "go and make disciples."

We must

1. Rediscover the boldness, zeal and power of Early Church evangelism.
2. Remember how the New Testament Church members cared, fellowshiped and were willing to sacrifice.
3. Use every possible means available to share our Lord with the lost, whether they be American, ethnic, migrant or deaf.

Your prayers are needed as we move forward in the following areas:

- A. Home Missions
Genesis, Fayetteville, NC
Hillsberry, Clinton, NC
Hillside, Grifton, NC
Silver Creek, Cape Carteret, NC
St. Cloud, St. Cloud, FLA
- B. Ethnic Missions
H'mongs (14 worship groups), CA
H'mong youth camp, CA
- C. Migrant Missions (Spanish-Speaking)
2 Churches with worship groups
6 Counties with Scripture distribution
- D. Deaf Missions
Church for the Deaf, Wilson, NC

(Turn the Page)

State Convention Update

Camp for the Deaf, NC

- E. New Work (to open September 1990)
Church for the Deaf, Fayetteville, NC
Friendly Chapel, Greensboro, NC

F. Evangelism

1. In-reach ministry
 - Seminars on: Invitation, visitation, soul-winning, church growth, stewardship
 - Lending Library: Video tapes available on the above subjects.
2. All-night Prayer Service: Friday, January 18, 1991, Marsh Swamp Church, Rock Ridge, North Carolina.
3. Night of Evangelism: On Tuesday night preceding the annual Convention, your department of Home Missions and Evangelism conducts the Night of Evangelism. This service is made available to give our church people the opportunity to join together in prayer and fellowship, to prepare us spiritually for our Convention.

Recommendations:

1. That this 1989-90 report to this Convention be adopted.
2. That this Convention support our 1990-91 budget (\$200,000).
3. That this Convention continue to designate April and September as Home Missions and Evangelism Months on our promotional calendar.
4. That this Convention continue to pray and support this ministry as we strive *To Touch Lives for a Lifetime*.

MINISTER'S PROGRAM

During the past year your generosity has enabled us not only to meet the challenge of our budget but also to exceed it. The gifts that we receive help us to meet the needs of the ministers who are in need, and those who are planning their future. It is difficult to give your best effort to your calling when you are burdened down with the concerns of day to day needs and responsibilities.

Last year we completed a survey of our ministers which appears in this report. We hope that the churches will take the results of this survey and use it to further assist the minister as they plan the new year together. (See page 25.)

We continue to assist over 50 ministers in their insurance program and also your contribution makes it possible for the retirement checks to several ministers to continue long after their contributions have been exhausted. This past year we declared a dividend for all ministers over the age of 75 who were participating in the old retirement program. Many of these ministers had been receiving the same monthly amount since 1971.

As in years past we once again sponsored a tax-seminar to benefit the ministers of our denomination. We hosted over 40 ministers and distributed valuable information and materials.

Hardship Grants and Graduate Student Loans are still available to ministers who qualify. Applications are available through our office at the Convention Headquarters.

For those ministers who participate in the Retirement Program the Minister's Program continues to underwrite all the expenses of administering the plan. Last year the plan earned 8.01% on the funds in the ministers' accounts. This rate is comparable and in many instances better than plans available through banks and savings institutions. The tax benefits are unequalled in plan through either the public or private sector.

The Minister's Widows Fund

It is our sad duty to inform this Convention of the loss of one of our participating ministers in the Widow's Fund. The Rev. Foy Futrelle was a great friend of this Convention as well as the Minister's Program. We cannot replace experience and dedication found in men like Brother Futrelle but we honor their memory by continuing the task we are called to do.

Currently we have a total of 159 ministers in the program.

Retired Ministers

From time to time we receive requests for the dates of birth of the ministers who are retired under the program. Listed below are those ministers.

James Evans	11/10
Fred Rivenbark	1/16
N. B. Barrow	10/23
Clifton Rice	1/09
Edgar Benton	9/26
C. L. Patrick	8/17
Carol Hansley	12/19
N. D. Beaman	10/27
R. T. Sasser	3/8
Dewey Boling	10/07
L. B. Woodall	11/21
Floyd Cherry	4/15
W. C. Overton	11/02
Boyd Shook	6/13
Clyde Cox	3/26

The Rev. De Wayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Church, Lucama, has served as president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists for the last four years. Under his capable leadership, the Convention has made many advancements.



Recommendations

- (1) We ask that this Convention continue in its prayers and support of this program (budget \$81,700).
- (2) We ask that October be designated as *Minister's Program Month* and that the third Sunday in June be observed as *Minister's Program Sunday*.

Church Finance Association

As of December 31, 1989:

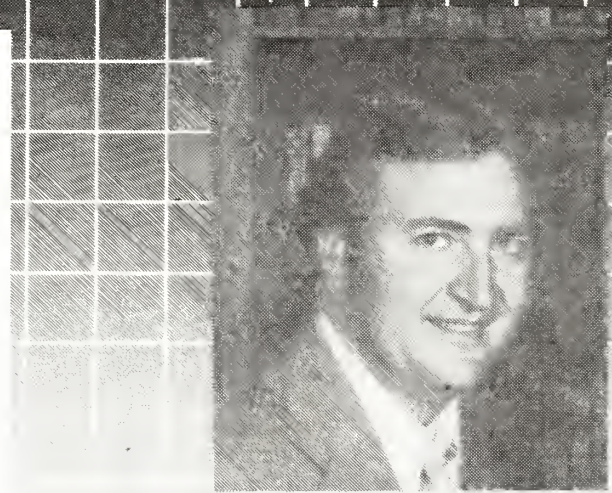
1. The Association had a total membership of 2870. Our membership increased in 1989 by 165.
2. Our total deposits were \$857,847. Our deposits increased in 1989 by \$51,651.
3. The total loans to our churches and institutions were \$1,601,652. New loans made in 1989 were \$331,880.

Free Will Baptist Press

One of the ways the Lord guides us is through the Scriptures. It is here that we seek and find His will in our lives. It is the aim of The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. to help you with your search of the Holy Scriptures.

The "Press" accomplishes this in several ways. The first way is by helping you to select the appropriate Bible to meet your needs. For instance, we carry large and giant print Bibles as well as regular small print editions. We also carry different translations and Bibles with different types of helps, i.e. concordance, maps, etc.

In addition to Bibles, we carry a large selection of reference books including Bible dictionaries, concordances, commentaries, and study guides, too. All of these are designed to help you with your search for God's will in your life.



The Rev. W. Scott Sowers was elected to the position of president during the 1990 Convention. Mr. Sowers pastors Marlboro Church, Farmville, NC.

Also available are hundreds of different books on every subject concerning your Christian life. Many of these books are based on the experiences of Christian people who desire to share their testimony with you. These books can be an invaluable source of inspiration to readers of all ages.

We are proud of our music department. Offered to you are many cassette tapes by Christian artists who wish to share their faith with you through song. Also available are hymnals and music books to help with your music ministry.

The Free Will Baptist Sunday School literature is also published by The Free Will Baptist Press. Through this literature we hope to bring to you God's Word and how it applies to your life.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

"I wish to report to you our current status with regards to the annual payment on Cragmont's debt. The situation at the present time is frightening. We are now in the ninth month of the year and only \$11,000 has been saved toward the payment. This payment of \$45,000 is due December 31, 1990. It has always been the desire of the board of directors of Cragmont to keep the cost of using the facilities at Cragmont down so long as churches and individuals are contributing enough funds to make this possible. Right now it appears that contributions are on the decrease while the cost of operation is increasing. Therefore, saving for the annual payment has been minimal.

"There also might be some confusion as to the purpose of the 'Cragmont Jubilee' program. The ultimate goal is to retire the debt by 1995. We have stated that in order to do this we will need 400 pledges. At this time we have only 65 pledges. Ideally these funds are to be used only at such time that the principal can be reduced significantly and thereby reduce the debt. It is similar to making an extra car payment or house payment. We need to make the annual payment of \$45,000, plus what is in the 'Jubilee' fund.

"There is still plenty of time for churches and individuals to respond. I hope all of you will make this a matter of prayer and a course of action. During the last 45 years Cragmont has provided a place of renewal for Free Will Baptists. Now is the time for us to renew our commitment to Cragmont" (John Williams).

Approximately 66 new professions of faith have been made during this session of summer camp. We have had a great summer so far and look forward to closing the summer camp season with another wonderful week with the Woman's Auxiliary conference.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

The Sunday School Board, formerly known as The Sunday School Convention, became a ministry of the Convention during the 1989 session. It was hoped that such a move would generate a greater awareness of the Board and its work. It was also hoped that a larger financial base would be built.

The Rev. Bass Mitchell, field secretary of the Sunday School Board, announced his resignation during his report. Mr. Mitchell has served in this position for six years. (His resignation is effective on October 1, 1990.)

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS

Ministry	1989-90 Contributions	1990-91 Requests	Percentage
Sunday School Board*	\$ 5,363.87	\$ 16,600	.8%
State Convention	13,818.00	27,425	1.3%
Minister's Program	25,919.01	25,000	1.2%
Retirement Homes	53,007.00	64,588	3.1%
Cragmont**	90,694.00	125,000	5.9%
Home Missions	179,633.00	195,000	9.3%
Children's Home	288,220.00	286,000	13.6%
Foreign Missions	344,458.00	364,351	17.3%
Mount Olive College	819,294.00	1,000,000	47.5%
	<u>\$1,820,406.88</u>	<u>\$2,103,964</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

The above information was obtained from a compilation of the adopted budgets of the various ministries. It is given to provide a total picture of the denominational support. In order to meet this projected budget, Original Free Will Baptists will have to increase overall denominational support by over 16.7%.

*No figure was submitted so the same figure as requested for 1989-90 was used.

**Figures are for December 31, 1989, as their 1990 year ends in December.

1989 MINISTERS SURVEY

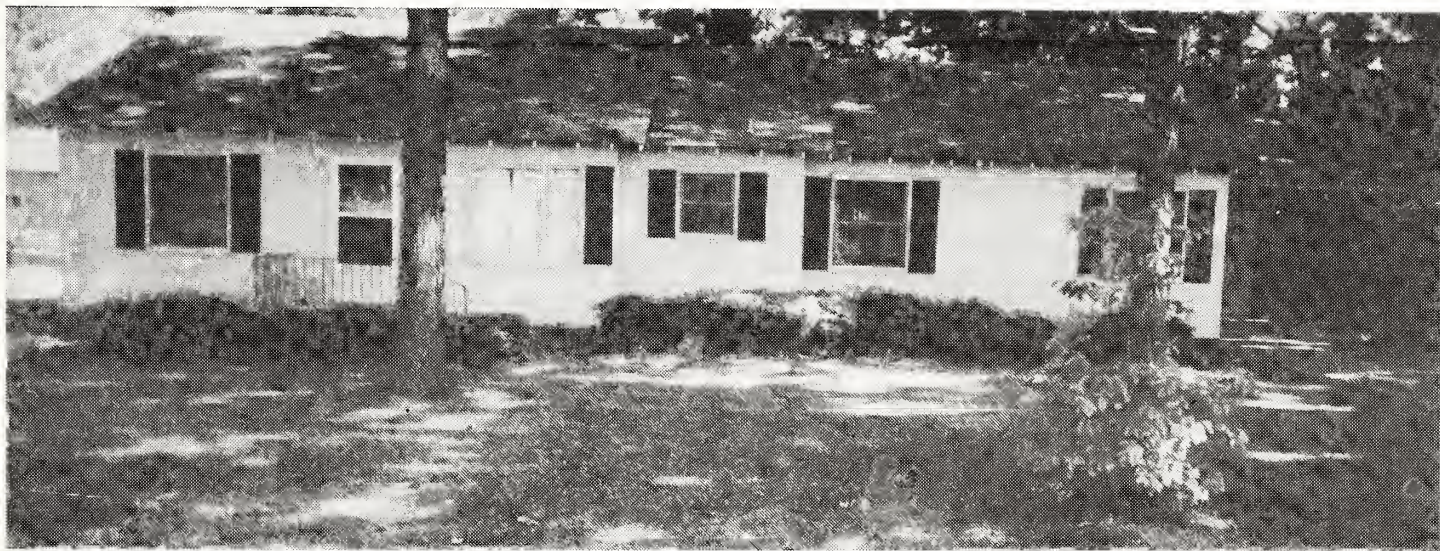
During the fall of 1989 The Minister's Program conducted a survey to determine the statistical make-up of the clergy serving our denomination. The poll was conducted on 80 active ministers and we have listed the averages below. Also, we have listed national averages as a comparative tool.

	FWB	USA-AVG
AGE	50	43
EXPERIENCE (Years)	23	16.5
SALARY AND BENEFITS	\$17,735	\$35,499

A complete breakdown is available from the Minister's Program.

TO BE CONTINUED

Be sure to see the November issue of *The Free Will Baptist* for the completion of the 1990 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists update.



WHITEVILLE MISSION RELOCATES

Whiteville Mission recently acquired about three acres of land across from the Memorial Baseball Stadium in Whiteville. The two buildings pictured here were included in the purchase.

The cost of the property and buildings was \$58,000, but the congregation only had to borrow \$46,000 from Church Finance Association.

In the past, the mission/church has not been able to have such ministries as Vacation Bible

School because of the space limitations of the storefront property in which services were being held. New avenues of service are now open to the group.

At present, the mission/church averages 30 in attendance. The

(Turn the Page)

house purchased has ample Sunday School and worship space, accommodating up to 80 people. The metal building in the back will be used for fellowship purposes. (In the near future, Free Will Baptists in the Pee Dee Association will come together for a workday to paint and upgrade the facility.)

The congregation would like to thank all those who participated and helped in making the obtaining of these properties possible, especially the churches and unions of the Pee Dee Association. This purchase will provide greater opportunities for *touching lives for a lifetime*. The Home Missions and Evangelism Ministry pushes forward with their Vision 2000.

The Rev. Garland Suggs is pastor/director of the Whiteville Mission.

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE TO MEET

The one hundred thirty-sixth session of the Cape Fear Conference will meet with First Church, Goldsboro, on November 1, 1990. The day's schedule is as follows:

- 8:30—Registration
- 9:00—Congregational Singing
 - Scripture and Prayer, Kenneth Jackson
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, J. N. Bryant
- 9:15—Call to Order
 - Registration Rules Explained by Credentials Committee
 - Roll Call of Officers and Standing Boards
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Roll Call of Ministers
 - Recognition of Visitors
 - Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. Felton Godwin
 - Appointment of Committees
- 9:45—Mount Olive College Report
- 10:00—Children's Home Report
- 10:15—Other Denominational Ministries
- 11:00—Worship Hour
 - Congregational Singing
 - Offering and Offertory Prayer
 - Special Music
 - Sermon, the Rev. Dewey Boling
- 12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

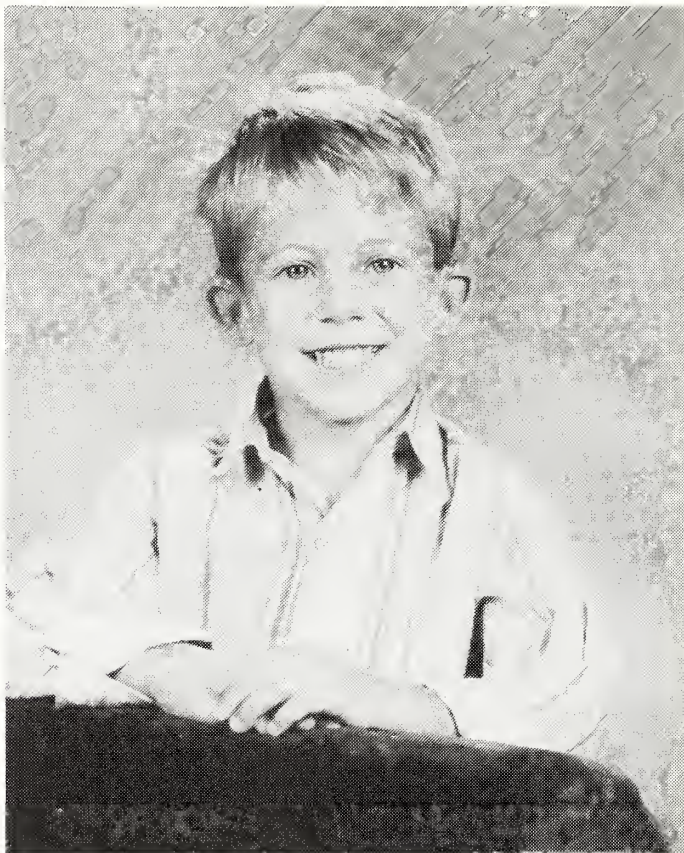
- 1:15—Congregational Singing
 - Scripture and Prayer, Jeffrey

Hayes

- 1:25—Report of Standing Committees
 - Executive Committee
 - Ordaining Council
 - Sunday School Convention
 - Woman's Auxiliary Convention
 - Cape Fear Ministers' Conference
 - Board of Education
- 2:15—Report of Temporary Committees
 - Temperance
 - Resolutions
 - Obituary
 - Credentials
 - Nominating
- 3:00—Business Session
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Adjournment

NOTICE

Ministers of the Western Conference are reminded that the Conference will convene on October 18 at Harmony Church, located in Wilson, NC. All ministers are required to attend the Conference. If you are unable to attend, a letter must be sent to the Board of Ordination prior to the convening of the Conference.



**FROM THE
MOUTH OF
"BABES"**

Todd Pennington

Some lessons in life are more difficult to learn than others. And for the average first grader, concepts such as **in front of**, **beside**, and **behind** might prove to be perplexing.

When Mrs. Harbin, a teacher at W. H. Robinson Elementary School, Winterville, was helping her students with these concepts recently, Todd Pennington, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Pennington, Winterville, proved he knew more than most.

Mrs. Harbin called five students to the front of the room. When she asked Todd who was **in front of** James, the first student in the row, he answered without hesitation, "The Holy Spirit!" Todd quickly became the talk of the school.

The Pennington family attends Winterville Church. His Sunday School teachers are Karen Ribeiro and Elizabeth Whitford.

CONVENTION COMMENTS

This issue of *The Free Will Baptist* will include complete information relative to the 1990 session of our Convention, which met September 11-13, at Mount Olive College. Therefore, I will only touch on a few items of interest in this issue of "Notes and Quotes."

Attendance

It is good to know that registration and attendance was higher than last year's. In 1989, 230 delegates registered, with 177 ministers and 69 visitors. In this year's session, 280 delegates registered, with 202 ministers and 64 visitors. (Other registrations for each year included visiting ministers, etc.) The total number registering in 1989 was 481, while at this year's session a total of 558 registered. The Conference with the highest percentage of ministers registering was the Central with 84%. The Conference with the highest percentage of delegates was the Western with 77%. By comparison, in 1984, 209 ministers registered with 300 delegates and 88 visitors. Many of us can remember when attendance was larger, but overall, 1990 was a good year.

Support of Ministries

Initially, it seems that the support of our ministries has improved over the previous years. During the course of the year, however, special appeals went out from some of our ministries, which is to be expected from time to time. The good aspect of this is that our churches respond each time. Thus, it is important that our people keep themselves informed by receiving and reading the various publications dealing with our ministries, and respond to these special needs as they arise.

Ministries' Displays

The displays at this year's ses-

sion were very well planned. They were very attractive and informative. Many of those attending the Convention viewed the displays, and picked up available materials and also shared in conversation with the various ministries directors. The Layman's League display and that of the Board of Publications were new this year. We commend each of these for being so well represented.

Convention Fellowship

Free Will Baptists have always enjoyed the times of fellowship at conventions and other gatherings. This year's Convention was no exception. It proves to be an opportunity to see old friends, to discuss various problems, and to become acquainted with new delegates and ministers. As we know, there's nothing that can take the place of being there. Wouldn't it be great to have a thousand people to attend?

Fraternal Delegates

This year's Convention recognized delegates from three other conventions. They were: Bishop L. N. Forbes, of the Original Free Will Baptist Annual Conference of America, Inc.; Dr. Melvin Worthington, executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists; Dr. Royal P. Kear, of the Churches of God, General Conference. All of these brethren brought greetings from their respective bodies and were welcomed to our Convention.

Convention Promotional Materials

The Convention bulletin, depicting the five-year theme, is in the process of being printed. We regret that we ran out of them at the Convention. We will take them with us when we attend the Conferences and Auxiliary Conventions this fall. We also have

available the pamphlet concerning our denominational ministries. These may be obtained from our Headquarters office.

Church Reports

It now seems that more churches sent in their reports this year than last year. We will again this year be following up with those churches who did not report. It is important that each church do so, for the compilation of information cannot be adequately done with incomplete reports.

Again, we appreciate each church's response to the support of our promotional office. As reported at the Convention, our first year was a good one. We thank each church and pastor for believing in what we, through our Convention and its executive committee, is doing.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. K. Alan Lamm has a new address. He can be reached from now on at 601 Riverhill Circle #D-4, Columbia, South Carolina 29210; phone, (803) 779-5225.

At present, Alan is working on the Ph.D. degree at the University of South Carolina.

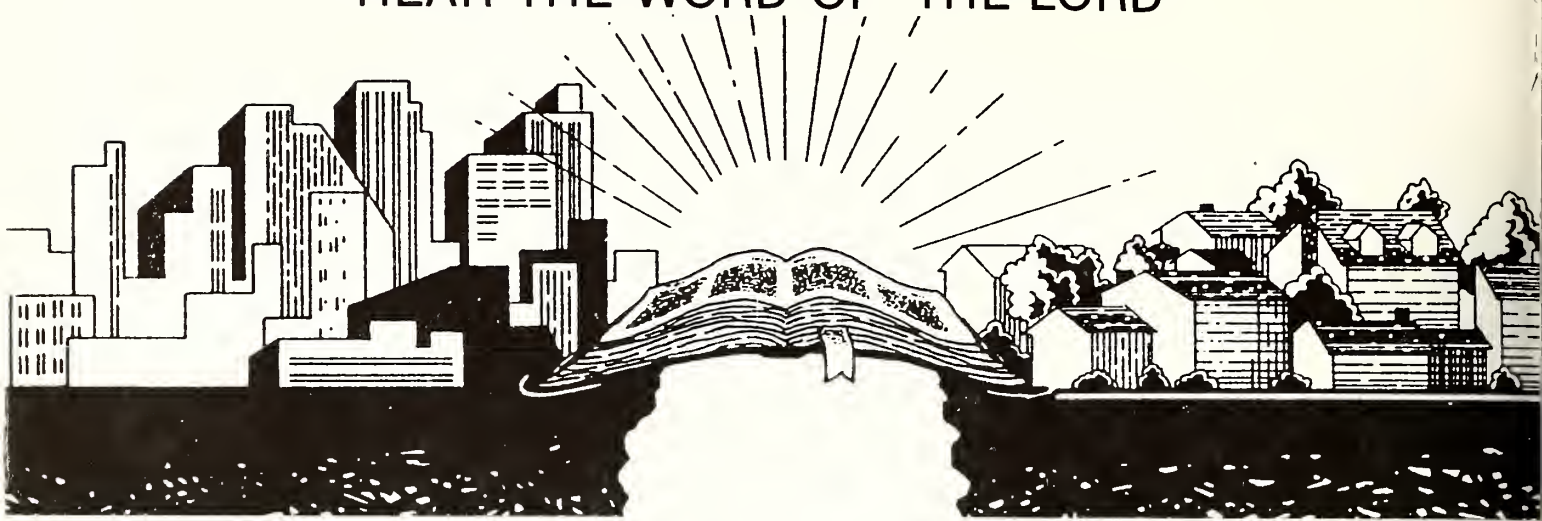
CHANGE OF PASTORATE

The Rev. Roy Clifton has assumed the pastorate of Mt. Zion Church, Nash County. His new address is as follows: The Rev. Roy Clifton, Route 2, Box 214, Nashville, NC 27856.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Mike Daniels is available for either supply, full-time or part-time ministry. To contact Mr. Daniels, write to him at 603 Wildwood Drive, Durham, NC 27712; or phone him at (919) 479-8227.

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD



by the Rev. C. H. Overman

We may so easily become so concerned about the various theological views concerning the Word, that we lose the power which is available through the Word. We are bemoaning the fact that people, church members, too, will not heed the Word of God. Those who attend our revivals are mostly active church members, with fewer and fewer lost people coming to the services, and very few young people. We forget that the Word is powerful, if we believe it and know it and preach it. It declares of itself: "For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). "The Word of God is not merely words from God, a vehicle for communicating ideas; it is living, life-changing, and dynamic as it works in us. With the incisiveness of a surgeon's knife, it reveals who we are and what we are not. It discerns what is within us, both good and evil. We must not only listen to the word; we must let it shape our lives" (*Living Letters*).

The inspiration of the Scriptures is expressed by such expressions as: "Thus saith the Lord," "The Word of the Lord came," "it is written," "according to the Scripture," and many others. Why then can we not proclaim it in love, grace and power? Is it because we doubt, or because we simply have no such convictions?

Paul's words to Timothy remind us that:

I. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for doctrine. (Doctrine is simply "something that is taught.")

Our *Articles of Faith* are based upon the truths of the inspired Word of God. Read it! Study it! Check out the Scripture references footnoting each of our *Articles*. Many of other denominations have attested to the truth of our doctrines—that they are scripturally sound.

As leaders in our churches, we are obligated to defend our doctrines, to guard against ideas and practices contrary to the truth of the Scriptures and our beliefs. Ministers are to guard the flock. Yet, the history of our denomination is marked by turmoil and division because of those "who came among us, but they were not of us." Personally, I will never understand how someone can profess to be one of us in doctrine and practice, and then preach and teach doctrines that are contrary to our true beliefs! But it does happen. God pronounces a woe upon those who scattered the flock of God (Jeremiah 23:1) with unscriptural teachings and practices. Thus we need to be ever mindful of our true teachings as presented in our *Articles of Faith*.

II. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for reproof. (Reproof "is criticism for a fault.") To reprove is to "scold or correct, usually gently or with kindly intent."

How willing are people today to allow the Word of God to reprove—to correct? Needless to say, most of the people of this age, or time, simply do not put themselves in position to allow the Word, through the Holy Spirit, to do His work. We know it has to be read and studied by each Christian. We know, too, that those who need its reproof the most are not in earshot of its teachings or preaching. They simply are not involved in the church.

III. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for correction, which means that it is profitable to "bring into conformity with a standard."

It seems that we are too often afraid to apply the Word for correction. For example, our young people—our youth. I remember a discussion on one occasion about whether to allow youth on a bus trip to take their "boxes" on the bus. Some thought

if you didn't let them they would not take the trip, but such was not the case. We are responsible to correct, applying the authority of the Word. We seek to bring our children into conformity to certain standards of conduct. As children of God, our Heavenly Father seeks to bring us into conformity to the standards of His Holy Word. But man is often stubborn and refuses the corrective power of the word.

IV. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for "instruction in righteousness."

There is no better source for such instruction. Indeed, as a nation, we are reaping the harvest for our neglect of the Word. It has been placed on the upper shelf—out of reach of a nation that is caught up in secularism and materialism, and hundreds of other "isms" and cults.

For fear of losing them and hurting them, we have said to our youth, "Church is not important. The preaching of the Word is outdated," so we offer them other things—trips, competitions, entertainment—fun, but not much preaching or biblical teaching. And the Bible asks, "How shall they hear without a preacher?" It further declares, "... it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Corinthians 1:21). One major problem that many are now expressing is the fact that we don't have young men being called into the gospel ministry. Little wonder, we have stopped preaching to them in our district and state meetings. We cannot recall the past, but can't you, along with me, remember when it was the simple, yet powerful Word of God that resulted in conversions of our youth and then their commitment to the will of God? We are afraid if we correct them, if we instruct them in the truths of God, we will lose them—so we have lost many of them anyway.

A study of great spiritual awakenings reveals that they have come when God's people became willing and anxious to receive the truths of the Word of God. When we begin to pray as the Bible teaches, when we study the Word, when we hunger and thirst after righteousness, then the power of the inspired Word can work its miracle of love in our hearts and souls will be born into the Kingdom of God.

Paul instructed Timothy: "Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:2). It is the proclamation of the Word of God that is needed, for it is the "Good News" that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord that can transform lives. It is Christ who can change human nature.

In 1833 Charles Darwin went to the South Sea Islands looking for the so-called "missing link." As he studied the cannibals who lived there he con-

cluded that no creatures anywhere were more primitive, and he was convinced that nothing on earth could possibly lift them to a higher level. Darwin believed he had truly found a lower level of humanity that could fit his theory of evolution. But thirty-four years later he returned to the same islands. To his utter amazement he discovered schools, churches, and homes occupied by some of the former cannibals. In fact, many of them wore clothes and gathered frequently to sing hymns of praise to God. The reason soon became evident. Missionary John G. Patton had been there proclaiming the truths of the gospel and salvation in Christ. Darwin was so moved by the transformation of the natives that he made a generous contribution to the London Missionary Society.

In the August 1983 segment of "Crossfire," the interviewer of Watergate figure Charles Colson admitted he was once an utter and total skeptic of Colson's conversion to Christ. Chuck Colson was no saint; the things he did were terrible. Yet after getting to know him, after seeing his work over the past ten years since his conversion, even this skeptic stated on nationwide television with enthusiasm in his voice that this was "one of the greatest transformations of recent history."

On the night of December 31, 1949, He transformed me. It happened because the inspired Word had been placed before me and after several years of conviction I acknowledged my sin and asked Christ into my life.

May we truly "hear the Word of the Lord."

The above sermon was delivered by the Rev. C. H. Overman on September 11, 1990, at the Night of Evangelism.

TAPES OF SERVICES

Should you like to have an audio cassette tape of the messages and services, please fill out the form below and mail it to the Rev. Doug Skinner, along with \$3.50 for each tape. If paying by check, please make check payable to Doug Skinner.

TAPES AVAILABLE

_____	Night of Evangelism: C. H. Overman	\$3.50
_____	Night of Evangelism: Scott Sowers	3.50
_____	Missions Rally: Paul Grubbs	3.50
_____	State Convention: Ronnie Hobgood	3.50
_____	State Convention: Bobby Carden	3.50
	Total	

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to the Rev. Doug Skinner, 804 East Cooper Street, Winterville, NC 28590.

WHO SAID IT?

How well do you remember Bible stories and quotes from those stories? Well, now is your chance to find out! Match the verse with the person or persons who said it. Write the number of the answer in the blank before the quote.

- _____ "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?"
- _____ "Whither thou goest, I will go."
- _____ "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
- _____ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men."
- _____ "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."
- _____ "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."
- _____ "He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear."
- _____ "Thou shalt never wash my feet."
- _____ "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."
- _____ "Let there be light."

1. John the Baptist
2. Joshua
3. Paul
4. Wise men
5. Peter
6. David
7. Jesus
8. God
9. Ruth
10. Angels



CORNERSTONE

Fall Women's Mini-Retreat
Cragmont Assembly
Black Mountain, North Carolina
Friday-November 23—Sunday, November 25
(Thanksgiving Weekend)

Tentative Schedule— Friday, November 23

8:00 p.m.—Opening Service

Saturday, November 24

Morning, Bible Study and Music

Afternoon, Free for Your Own Adventures

Evening, Service

Sunday, November 25

6:30 a.m., Worship Service

7:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 a.m., Homeward Bound

(The early time for the Sunday service is to enable us to get ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday traffic as we head for home.)

COST: \$10.00 registration

\$35.00 balance due on arrival

\$45.00 total

Includes 2 nights, 3 meals Saturday, 1 meal Sunday.

If you have questions, please call:

Co-Directors: Dola Dudley, (919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner, (919) 332-2772 or (919) 332-6810

REGISTRATION FOR CORNERSTONE 1990

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mail Registration fee and
the form below to:
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

Christian PARENTING LIBRARY

To help parents who are searching for ways to guide their children in these difficult times, the editors of *Christian Parenting Magazine* have assembled five outstanding books on child rearing. They include:

How to Raise Children That Love the Lord

by Dr. James Dobson

How to Instill Values that Count

by Dr. Elaine McEwan

How to Discipline Your Children with Love

by Dr. Kay Kuzma

How to Shape Your Child's Education

by Dr. Cliff Schimmels

How to Mold Character from the Inside Out

by Dr. Kay Kuzma



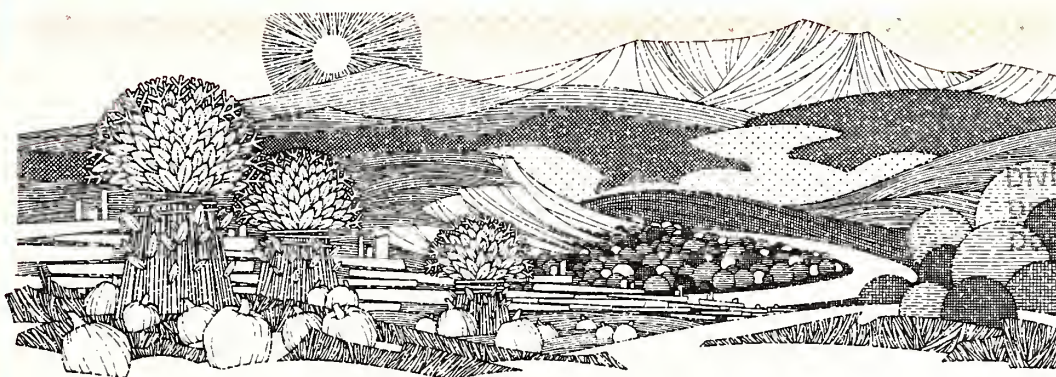
Available from the Free Will Baptist Press and its branch stores in Kinston, New Bern and Wilson.

\$25.95

Free Will Baptist Press
811 North Lee Street
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Ayden, NC 28513

NOVEMBER 1990

DS



Divinity Library
Wake University
Durham NC 27706

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Happenings Throughout the Church

3

State Convention Update (Continued) . . .

22

By Inspiration of God

25

"Hear the Word of the Lord"

28

Notes and Quotes

32

Children's Corner

33

Mail Call: Points of Light

34

Thanksgiving

36

Teaching the Church of the Future

37

A Peace to Fill

38

Pastor's Helpers

39

November 1990

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$8.93; two years, \$16.28; four years, \$31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$8.50, \$15.50 and \$30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; Wilson, 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; New Bern, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors: Carroll Hawkins, President; Leon Harris, Vice President; Gaye Renfrow, Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Assistant Secretary; Carlee Stallard, Jack Thompson, W. S. Burns, Gary Burbage, Craig Simmons; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, Editor of Literature.

**PLEASANT HILL CHURCH
BURNS NOTE**

by Rose G. Bowen

Around the year 1982, a small church named Pleasant Hill, Central Conference, had members who realized that the church needed a nicer, larger Fellowship Hall. The church under the leadership of its pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, had grown in membership through the Sunday School and church. The chairman of the Board of Deacons was William Earl Adams, now deceased. The idea was carried to the church and it was voted to proceed.

A building committee was elected consisting of Jesse Boyd, chairman; Billy Ray Haddock, Joe Woolard and the pastor assisting. This committee went to work and in April 1983, borrowed \$55,000 from the Church Finance Association. Counting interest and some money from the treasury, the entire bill was \$89,000. Charles Vandiford of Vanrack, Inc. was contacted and the job was contracted to him. The building was completed in a few months and ready for use. It was voted by the church to have four barbecue chicken dinners a year to help pay for the building. Many members sacrificed and worked hard to put these dinners on and Jesse Boyd headed the drive for many years. The church thanks everyone who had a part in this work including friends outside of our church who gave personal gifts to Mr. Boyd to be used for this.

The Rev. C. F. Bowen who wanted the building very much attended one homecoming in the new building in 1983 and then before another one came, he went to his homecoming in Heaven to be with the Lord on January 22, 1984.

Some of the members of the church had a portrait made of Mr. Bowen after his death and

November 1990

presented it to the church on the 1984 homecoming. Mrs. June Haddock led the dedication service and unveiled the portrait after which it was placed in the Fellowship Hall. Mrs. Bowen found the first Bible that Mr. Bowen bought after his conversion in 1933. It was tattered, worn and written on all over where he had used it.

Mrs. Bowen and their son, Jeff, presented the encased Bible to the church on Mother's Day, 1990. Jeff made appropriate remarks stating that his father was converted in 1933 and by studying the Bible without formal training was teaching a class of 100 men in old Edgemont Church in Durham in just a few months. He also said that he believed his father sacrificed a lot of worldly goods for his Lord because he believed he was called of God to serve Him as a minister. He mentioned that his Dad was called to other denominations, such as Missionary Baptist and Presbyterian, at high salaries but refused because he believed in the doctrine of the Free Will Baptist denomination. He also turned down an opportunity to serve as History Department Head of a prominent North Carolina Missionary Baptist University. He had many opportunities with his education to do so many things but stood by a denomination that he believed in and served until his death.

The encased Bible was placed on a table under his portrait.

This year in August, the entire note was finished. It has been stated that to be a small church, the debt was paid off as well as anyone that has borrowed from The Church Finance Association. The total of \$89,000 was paid in seven years.

On September 30, 1990, at Homecoming the note was burned. The service consisted of the Rev. Tony Parrish, present

pastor, making appropriate remarks, then lighting a candle and presenting it to Bruce Haddock, chairman of the Board of Trustees, who burned the note. Mrs. June Haddock, Building Fund Chairman, prayed the dedication prayer. Also assisting in the service was Billy Ray Haddock, Finance Committee Chairman.

The entire congregation praised the Lord for God who led them through the seven years of paying off the debt. Now they can move on to other projects that need to be done in the church.

**THE REV. JOHN WILLIAMS
SPEAKS AT
PLYMOUTH FWB CHURCH**

On August 26, the Rev. John Williams, manager of Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, NC, spoke during the morning worship service at Plymouth Church.

He emphasized the worthy work being done at Cragmont. He reported that over 66 people made professions of faith this summer.

The Scripture for his sermon was 1 Kings 19:1-13. Prior to his sermon, the choir sang "I'm on My Way to Heaven" and a quartet sang "Jesus Use Me." The Rev. Luther Swinson was host pastor.

**PLYMOUTH, FIRST CHURCH,
HONORS WIDOWS**

Sunday evening, August 26, at 5:30, Plymouth, First Church, held a fellowship supper in honor of the five widows of the church. The widows are Estelle West, Ruth Spruill, Elsie Phelps, Pearl Alexander, and Ann Sawyer. They were seated at the head table with the Rev. and Mrs. Luther Swinson.

The head table was decorated with a white tablecloth, red roses in full bloom, and candles. The other tables had centerpieces of colorful summer flowers.

There were prayers, testimonies and good singing of well-

(Turn the Page)

known hymns. This was followed with refreshments of finger foods and beverages.

In closing, "America" was sung in remembrance of all the soldiers who are serving in the armed forces. The middle east crisis is affecting relatives of members in the church. The Rev. Luther Swinson closed in prayer.

Photographers took snapshots to remember the occasion.

REVIVAL SERVICES SCHEDULED

Core Creek Church, Cove City, North Carolina, will begin a series of revival services on Sunday, November 11, and continue through Thursday, November 15. The theme for the services is "Rejoice and Be Glad . . ."

On Sunday evening, the Rev. Graham Lane will speak on the topic, "Rejoice and Be Glad in Our Salvation." On Monday evening, The Rev. Norman Ard will speak on the topic, "Rejoice and Be Glad in God's Word." On Tuesday evening, the Rev. T. O. Terry will speak on the topic, "Rejoice and Be Glad in Our Trials." On Wednesday evening, the Rev. Willis Wilson will speak on the topic, "Rejoice and Be Glad in Our Family Life." And on Thursday evening, the Rev. Craig Simmons will speak on the topic, "Rejoice and Be Glad in Our Opportunities."

Services will begin each evening at 7:30. There will be special music nightly, and the public is cordially invited to attend. Core Creek is pastored by the Rev. Bryant Hines Jr.

HAPPENINGS AT ANTIOCH CHURCH

by Madie Everington

Pastor Sunday was recognized at Antioch Church on September 9, 1990, in celebration of our church's centennial year. Invitations had been sent to all previous pastors, and to the descendants of our deceased ones that we have recorded in our history.

Beck Bennett, one of our deacons and our church clerk, called the roll of ministers with the dates of their service beginning with (1) *the Rev. R. F. Daugherty*, of whom we have a date of 1903 and another at 1917. No one responded.

(2) *The Rev. J. C. Griffin*: 1918-22; 1930-32; 1951-52. His son J. C. Jr. responded and related the many times his father brought home smoked hams, side meat, and produce to supplement the small amount of money the church was able to pay him. He also stated that anyone who knew his father knew he was a "soul winner" because of his boldness to ask about one's relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

(3) *The Rev. Duff Toler*: 1923-27. His grandson Charles Toler Jr. responded. Mr. Toler said he had fond memories of the stories of his grandfather's ministries. He told about Mr. Toler's love and commitment to his work for the Lord and his burden for lost souls. Mr. Toler lives in Chocowinity, NC, and expressed his pleasure to represent the Rev. Duff Toler.

(4) *The Rev. J. R. (Randall) Bennett*: 1927-30 and 1936-40. No one responded due to illness in the family.

(5) *The Rev. Luke H. Wetherington*: 1932-33. His son L. H. responded and told how he came to church here with his father and was a member of a band under the direction of Jack Honrine. He said Antioch had always had good music. L. H. drove down from Chesapeake, Virginia.

(6) *The Rev. M. C. Prescott*: 1934-35 and 1941-42. His grandson, Larry Prescott, responded and gave a brief history of Mr. Prescott's life. He stated his grandfather was an educated man, earning his degree from the F.W.B. Seminary in Ayden, NC. He gave his sons the opportunity to attend college. Music was enjoyed by this family and a quartet was active at one time. He stated

his grandfather preached hard against Minnesott Beach. Mr. Prescott drove from Pamlico County.

(7) *The Rev. Kenneth Gaskill*: 1945-47. His sister, Mrs. Wildon Saulter of Sea Level and his sister-in-law (who was married to Eric Gaskill, who preached at a revival meeting at Antioch), attended. Mrs. Saulter stated that Kenneth lived in Lowland, NC, and would drive to New Bern on Saturday and spend the night with her and his mother and drive out to Antioch for Sunday services. This way the trip didn't seem so long and tiring. She said he loved our church and its people.

(8) *The Rev. Clinton Lupton*: 1948-50, 1953-55. No one responded. His widow Ruth, from Bayboro, had made plans to come, but due to health reasons could not.

(9) *The Rev. John Grimsley*: 1956-57. Mr. Grimsley responded. He said Antioch was "in the beginning of his pastoring," and he had a lot to learn about working for the Lord. He married a girl from one of the founding families of the church and his family was here with him for this occasion, expressing gratitude for the invitation to be a part of our celebration. The Grimsleys live in Pamlico County.

(10) *The Rev. Albert Rollins*: 1957-60. Mr. Rollins responded. At the time he began pastoring our church, he wasn't married; but while here he met and married his wife Irene. Now their two children are grown and married. He expressed his love for us and said he never ceases to pray for us. Mr. and Mrs. Rollins drove in from Dublin, Georgia.

(11) *The Rev. James Lupton*: 1960-68. Mr. Lupton's wife, Ruth, responded as James is interim pastor at Rose of Sharon Church. Our parsonage was built while they were with us, and they were its first occupants. Joan and Judy, their daughters, grew up here and were both very active singing and playing the piano. They honored

our day by singing two beautiful songs of praise, with Joan at the piano. Ruth told of the many "good" days at Antioch, since this is her home church from childhood. They now reside in Pikeville, NC.

(12) *The Rev. Jerry B. English*: 1968-present. Mr. English has been with us for 22 years. Brother Bennett stated he could have stayed this long only because of the love shared between him and the church. Pastor English responded by preaching a sermon taken from Matthew 16:24-26 and used as his text, "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" The monies received by our pastors, especially during our church's infancy, were nominal, and Pastor English stated it was hard to understand how they survived with families to care for. Then he brought out how God can take little and make much, and that salvation is a free gift from Him to all who will receive His son, Jesus. A man can own properties, large amounts of money, and will still be poor spiritually without the Lord—and when death comes, eternity in Hell that doesn't cost anything—except faith to believe. What will a man give in exchange for his soul? Today is the day of salvation. Now is the time to prepare for eternity." An altar call was given by Pastor English, as is the custom each Sunday, and "Softly and Tenderly" was sung, followed by the benediction.

A bountiful lunch was served in the Fellowship Hall.

Also, not mentioned previously: Memorial portraits of each of these pastors, with the exception of the Rev. Daugherty, have been hung in the entry hall of the Fellowship Building. It is the centennial committee's hope that future generations of Antioch Church will carry on this project.

CAPE FEAR YOUTH

The Cape Fear Youth Fellowship will meet with West Clinton

November 1990

Church on November 3. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. All youth and their sponsors are encouraged to attend.

ASSUMES PASTORATE

The Rev. Joe Ratcliff has assumed the pastorate of Sound Side Church, Columbia, NC. Mr. Ratcliff's new address and telephone number are as follows: Route 2, Box 80-A, Pantego, NC 27860; (919) 943-3490.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

Jerry Stephenson was licensed by the Cape Fear Conference on September 24, 1990. A member of Powhatan Church, Mr. Stephenson is presently in his second year of study at Carolina Bible Institute and is available for full-time supply ministry.

Mr. Stephenson can be reached

FIRST CHURCH, ROCKY MOUNT, HAS ROUND-UP SUNDAY



by Debbie Daughtridge

On Sunday, September 9, 1990, we had "round-up" Sunday at our church. "A round-up" is a gathering together of persons or things, and that is just what we had. We gathered up our members who had been away through the summer. We also had many visitors to come. After an inspiring message by our pastor, the Rev. Ray Williamson, everyone gathered on the front lawn of the church to form a big circle. We all held hands and looked around at each other and truly felt blessed by God. As we held hands, warmth and love seemed to flow through each of us. We all felt a closeness to each other and God.

God has been so good to us at each turn in our new church home. Round-up Sunday was also a celebration of our first year in our new church location.

Round-up Sunday is a new tradition that we have started in our church. Each year our goal will be to make the circle larger. The goal for next year is to have a circle completely around the church building.

To God be the glory!

at the following address and phone number: Route 3, Box 13, Smithfield, NC 27577; (919) 989-7718.

PHOTOS NEEDED

An element of "church administration" or "ministry" that is often overlooked deals with public relations. The personnel at the Free Will Baptist Press are often called on to help in this area. Many times, however, we do not have current photographs of ministers, church leaders, and church facilities.

Whenever ministers and church leaders have new photographs taken, it would be appreciated if one copy was sent to the Press for our files. Black and white wallet size pictures of all our ministers would greatly enhance our efforts

(Turn the Page)

of serving our churches.

Clear prints of church facilities would also be appreciated. When taking church pictures, please try to avoid photographing light lines and trees which might obstruct the view of the facility.

Ministers, if you have not had a picture taken in the last several years, please take the time to do so. Please forward pictures to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

FALL STUDY COURSE

The Cape Fear District Fall Study Course will be held November 16, 1990, 7:30 p.m. at the First Church, Smithfield.

All members are urged to attend this study course on "Prayer," given by Becky Jo Sumner of Ahoskie, NC.

YOUTH RECEIVES AWARD



Matthew Scott Tyndall

Matthew Scott Tyndall, of Smith's New Home Church, Deep Run, recently received the Cub Scouts of America "God and Family" religious award. The award was presented by his pastor, the Rev. Walter Sutton, on October 7.

"Scotty" is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Muriel B. Tyndall of Deep Run, and is a member of Cub Scout Pack 273 of Kinston.

CONVENTION SUPPORTERS



On Sunday, August 12, the members of Smith's New Home Church pictured here contributed personally to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and the office of the General Secretary. Each person who contributed was given a Convention lapel pin.

Smith's New Home is a supporter of each Convention ministry. A representative from each ministry is invited to share his respective ministry's work some Sunday during the ministry's designated month. The membership is encouraged by the minister through the church's weekly bulletin and from the pulpit to contribute personally to each Convention ministry. Individual gift support comes in addition to any budget appropriations.

Smith's New Home is a denominational church with denominational responsibility.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULED

The Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet on Thursday, November 8, at Winterville Church. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., with the conference convening at 9:30. The

Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of Friendship Church, Farmville, will deliver the Conference message. The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor of First Church, Greenville, is moderator of the Central Conference.



RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR FAITHFULNESS

Three members of Piney Grove Church, Albertson, were recently recognized for perfect attendance in Sunday School. Mr. William Carter, right, received his 44th Sunday School attendance bar. Mr. Melvin Rich, standing, was recognized for 10 years of perfect attendance. "Porky" Hardy has attended for eight years.

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has designated November as Children's Home Month and November 11, 1990, as Children's Home Day. Our children wish to thank you for your prayers and support for your child care ministry. It is your prayers and support that provide "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."



Christmas is fast approaching. The season brings along with it the fun of shopping, parties, caroling and sharing with others. As we begin planning for this busy time of year, did you know that there are children who are not on anyone's shopping list? Christmas sponsors are so important to our children, because it is such a tender time when love speaks so clearly through sharing. Each year we try to provide one sponsor for every child in our care. Sponsors may simply send \$100 for each child sponsored. We need to receive Christmas sponsorships by the first of December to allow us time to complete our shopping. Won't you consider adding our special children to your Christmas list? You will be the one to receive the greatest gift!

Special Invitation Issued to Free Will Baptists

The Board of Directors of the
Free Will Baptist Children's Home
cordially invites you and your guests to
Friends of Children Appreciation Day
Saturday, November 17, 1990

Twelve o'clock
Whitley Center

Please RSVP by November 12, 1990

Friends of

Children... a special way to share.

CHILDREN'S BENEFITS

- A home
- Clothing
- Medical care
- Education
- Love
- Spiritual guidance
- A chance to develop to their God-given ability

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO BECOME A

FRIEND OF CHILDREN

Membership in the Friends of Children program is achieved with a monthly gift of \$20 or more to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

Membership provides you an opportunity to become partners and share in a sense of satisfaction with other concerned friends in ensuring the on-going ministry of "a Christian home for boys and girls."

There are three levels of monthly giving recognized within the membership of the Friends of Children program. You may choose the category which matches your resources and interest.

Cornerstone Members: \$100 plus

Foundation Members: \$40 - \$99

Friends: \$20 - \$39

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- An attractive Friends of Children award
- Monthly news note of current activities
- Invitation to Friends of Children Appreciation Day and other special events
- Personal tours of the campus
- Annual report of your giving
- Partnership with other Friends supporting their child care ministry
- Personal satisfaction of reaching out beyond yourself and sharing your resources with children
- You are giving hope and a future to a child



FREE WILL BAPTIST MINISTRY TO CHILDREN

"Friends of Children"

Statement of Faith

Because of my/our concern, commitment and support to children, and the Child Care Ministry of Original Free Will Baptists, I/we will become Friends of Children at the following level:

☐ Cornerstone Member

☐ Foundation Member

☐ Friends

Name (Person/s or Group) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Church _____

Enclosed you will find my first gift of \$_____ I plan to begin _____

Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear on the award. Normally you will receive your award by mail within 30 days.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby W. Ackiss
 Albemarle Layman's League
 The Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Aycock
 The Rev. and Mrs. Gary M. Bailey
 Mr. John H. Banks
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Batchelor
 Mrs. Betty D. Batts
 Miss Leilani J. Bays
 Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Beddard
 Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bedford
 Bethany Woman's Auxiliary
 Bethany Deacons
 Bethany Eva Edwards Sunday School Class
 Bethany Free Will Baptist Church
 Bethany Sunday School
 Ms. Peggy J. Biggs
 Mr. and Mrs. Allen Blount
 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Booth
 Mr. and Mrs. Clovis Boykin
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred F. Boykin
 Mrs. Hazel D. Brown
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Bundy
 Mr. and Mrs. Roney B. Bunn Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. James W. Cahoon
 Cape Fear Youth Fellowship
 Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Carter
 Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Carter
 Casey's Chapel Guiding Light Class
 The Rev. and Mrs. Jesse B. Caton
 Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cherry
 Core Creek Woman's Auxiliary
 Crab Point Woman's Auxiliary
 Mr. and Mrs. James H. Cratt
 Mr. Alan Cuddington
 Mrs. Alma S. Dale
 Mrs. Hazel H. Daniels
 The Rev. and Mrs. Jeff Daughtry
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Person Daughtry
 Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Davenport
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael B. Denton
 The Rev. and Mrs. De W. Eakes
 East Rockingham Women's Class
 Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Evans
 Mr. and Mrs. Hyman L. Faulkner
 The Rev. and Mrs. Frank Flowers
 Folkstone Men's Fellowship
 Mr. and Mrs. Bobby T. Foy
 Free Union Layman's League
 Mrs. Foy C. Futrelle
 The Rev. and Mrs. E. Francis Garner
 Mrs. Fannie H. Garriss
 Mrs. Rose Gassaway
 Mrs. Sue H. Gay
 Miss Donna J. Glisson
 Mrs. Kitty B. Glover
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Glover
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Gordon
 Mr. and Mrs. William F. Griner
 The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs
 Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hales
 Mr. Ray Hardee
 Harrell's Chapel YFA
 Harrell's Chapel Young Adult Class
 Mr. and Mrs. Eli Harrison
 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hatcher
 Mr. and Mrs. Doug Haugen

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll W. Hawkins
 Mrs. Sarah L. Herndon
 Hickory Grove Adult 1 and 2
 Sunday School Class
 Mr. and Mrs. George Rand Holland
 Mr. and Mrs. Louis F. Holloway
 Holly Springs Woman's Auxiliary
 Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Hood
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond B. Howard
 Mrs. Sarah P. Howell
 Mr. J. P. Huffman
 Mr. James B. Hunt Sr.
 Mrs. Ann R. Johnson
 Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jones
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Jones
 Mr. Ken Keever
 Helen Keevert
 Liz Brinchek Young Adult Class
 Kenly Woman's Auxiliary
 Lois Kennedy Sunday School Class
 La Grange Woman's Auxiliary
 Mr. Ron K. Langley
 Little Creek Layman's League
 Little Creek Woman's Auxiliary
 Little River Corporation
 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Liverman
 Mrs. Lillie Liverman
 Mr. and Mrs. Billy R. Maitland
 Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie L. Manning
 Marsh Swamp Friendship Class
 Marsh Swamp Sunday School
 Marsh Swamp Woman's Auxiliary
 Marsh Swamp Layman's League
 Mrs. Ida M. McCaffity
 Mrs. Elsie McCoy
 Miss Leah L. McGlohon
 Mr. and Mrs. William M. McLawhorn
 Mrs. Maggie B. McLawhorn
 Mr. Phillip R. Mercer
 Mr. and Mrs. Denver Mitchell
 Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Mothershead
 Mr. and Mrs. Clarence F. Norris Jr.
 Ormondsville Woman's Auxiliary
 The Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Overman
 Mr. Worth Overman Jr.
 The Rev. and Mrs. Thomas M. Parrish
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parsons
 Mrs. Doris B. Peedin
 Dr. and Mrs. Cedric D. Pierce Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. David C. Pittman
 Pleasant Hill Woman's Auxiliary
 Mrs. Geneva W. Pope
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rains
 Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper
 The Rev. and Mrs. Jacky Raper
 Reedy Branch Willis Wilson Class
 Reedy Branch Fidelis Class
 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Riley
 Robert's Grove Layman's League
 Robert's Grove Vanguard II Class
 Rock of Zion Adult Class
 Mr. and Mrs. Joel L. Rogers
 Rose Hill Sunday School
 Rose of Sharon Woman's Auxiliary
 Mr. Earl J. Ross
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Roughton
 Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Rouse

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rouse
 Saint Mary's YFA
 Saint Mary's Junior Ladies Auxiliary
 Sherron Acres Currie Bible Class
 Sherron Acres Ladd-Smith Bible Class
 The Rev. and Mrs. Doug Skinner
 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Slaughter
 Stancil's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary
 Stancil's Chapel YFA
 Mr. James R. Stocks
 Stoney Creek Young Woman's Circle
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Stott
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Sullivan
 Ms. Becky Jo Sumner
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger Sutton
 The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby R. Taylor
 Mrs. Essie S. Taylor
 Mrs. W. Hubert Taylor
 Tee's Chapel Mixed Adult Class
 Tee's Chapel Ladies Auxiliary
 The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby G. Tew
 The Group
 Mrs. Ima Thompson
 Mr. and Mrs. Sanford G. Thompson
 The Rev. and Mrs. Billy Toler
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Tyndall
 Vandora Springs Church
 Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Van Horne
 Mr. and Mrs. Franklin P. Vester
 Mr. and Mrs. Rand W. Wade
 Wardens Grove Junior Circle
 Mr. and Mrs. Franklin L. Watson
 The Rev. and Mrs. John R. Williams Jr.
 Ms. Sara M. Willoughby
 Mrs. Emma R. Wooten
 Mr. and Mrs. Ted Worthington

THE FRUIT OF EVANGELISM IN MEXICO

by Antonio Escobar

Brother Cristobal Vasquez is one of our ministers who is seeing the results of the work of evangelism, for that is the way of presenting the gospel from person to person as our Lord Jesus did with the Samaritan woman at the well. We know that outcome. These are the same results that Brother Cristobal has had as souls have come to Jesus Christ during this time of visitation. He not only has heard persons say that they accept Christ as Saviour, but he has led them into the waters of baptism. His joy is our joy because this is the result of our prayers and our love for lost souls.

(Turn the Page)



Three brethren were baptized in July and another group are preparing to be baptized. This speaks to us of growth in our churches and this church in particular.

NEW PASTOR AT PUERTO PRINCESA FWB CHURCH

by Diosdado Manzano

It was a bright Sunday morning on June 24, 1990, when God chose a new pastor for the Puerto Princesa Church through the majority vote of the congregation during the quarterly business meeting.

I had served the church as pastor for the past fourteen months. I enjoyed serving the Lord as pastor of this church in spite of difficulties and challenges of being a young pastor. God had spoken to me in March and challenged me to re-open the office of the Sunday School Department, which had been closed because of circumstances beyond our control. I let the church know my decision and we had been praying for a new pastor for months.

Our new pastor is Pastor Nerie Peralta. He and his wife, Helen, have one daughter and are expecting another child soon. He is the former pastor of Iraray Church. At present, Pastor Peralta is also vice president of the Board of Trustees of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines.

I might say that the bright Sunday morning was the time of the bright answer of God to our prayers. I personally thank God for His answer. I am happy to en-

dorse the responsibility for the church to our new pastor with complete support. I say **complete** because even though I am not serving as the pastor, the church has elected me to serve as one of their deacons. As director of the Sunday School Department, I am glad to serve as a deacon of the church, and most of all, to be a servant of God.

Brethren, please pray for our new pastor, his family and the Puerto Princesa Church. Always remember that when God answers our prayers, it is as bright as the new morning and not gloomy as the night.

AN 80-YEAR-OLD WITNESS OF CHRIST

by Willem van der Plas

We met Mrs. Iluminada Crecencia during a Bible class graduation at Inagawan Public Elementary School where Mrs. Lilibeth Dancil is an enthusiastic teaching Bible woman. For many years, Mrs. Crecencia served the Lord as the wife of a Fundamental Baptist pastor, who was called to ministry on Palawan in 1941.

After the death of her husband, she visited her daughters in Singapore, Canada and the United States of America. The birth of Albert and Victor, twin sons of her

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Dear Friends,

Please remember that **DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH** in the State Convention calendar. This is only one month away. Our work in India, Mexico and the Philippines is progressing and continues to need our faithful support to enable them to reach the masses of people in those countries with the gospel. The Board of Foreign Missions is also in the process of expanding its ministry into another country. We are aiming toward opening this work in Eastern Europe in the summer of 1991.

The progress we are making on our present fields and the expansion to a new field requires the total support of all churches and individuals.

Please begin to pray about your contribution to **FOREIGN MISSIONS** during the month of **DECEMBER**. Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Your obedience to this command through giving will make His gospel known to the ends of the earth.

DECEMBER, the month we celebrate His birth, is surely a fitting time to share to make Him known. God bless you with His sure will as you pray and obey.



Mrs. Iluminada Crecencia

only son and his wife, drew her back to Palawan in 1987. She enjoyed America very much but did not get enough exercise because she had to go everywhere by car. "Unforgettable are the prayer meetings, the Bible study hours and the worship services," she told me.

At the end of many stories she said, "Pastor, I want to pay my tithes to you because I recognize you as a man of God. Use it to save the lost." I explained to her that we are Free Will Baptists not Fundamental Baptists but she insisted with the words, "The Holy Spirit tells me to do this."

Before we finished our conversation, I asked her, "What is your greatest desire?" And without hesitation, she answered, "My greatest desire is to serve the Lord, to work for the Lord." I recognized an 80-year-old jewel in the Kingdom of God.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE TRUSTEES ELECTED AT CONVENTION

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists elected new Mount Olive College Trustees during its annual meeting September 12-13 in College Hall. Four Free Will Baptists were named—three new members and one returning—with terms expiring in 1996. Honorary members were also named.

The new trustees are De Wayne Eakes of Lucama, an MOC alumnus, immediate past president of the Convention, and pastor of Little Rock Church; W. C. Martin of Dunn, businessman, member of Shady Grove Church and parent of an MOC student; and Jane Tyson Tripp of Greenville, retired employee of East Carolina University and a member of Piney Grove Church, Pitt County.

C. B. Hinnant of Micro, businessman and a trustee since 1984, is returning to the board. He is a member of Micro Church.

Two trustees were granted honorary membership in recognition of 18 years of active membership (1972-1990). They are Louise Edgerton of Pikeville, a member of Union Grove Church; and the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser of Wilson, Free Will Baptist minister, Central Conference.

NIDO QUBEIN PRAISES MOC AND ITS BRIDGE BUILDERS

Nido R. Qubein of High Point, president of Creative Services, Inc., praised Mount Olive College and its Bridge Builders at the Bridge Builders appreciation dinner September 29, in College Hall. One of America's top professional speakers, Qubein said MOC "pursues persistently all that is wholesome, noble, and worthy."

Nearly 500 people attended the sixth annual dinner, honoring those who have made unrestricted gifts of \$100 or more at gift support dinners for the College. The dinners are held each fall by Free Will Baptists throughout eastern North Carolina.

"I want to express appreciation to you for coming," MOC President W. Burkette Raper said to Qubein during his introduction. "Your schedule is always busy, but I've never called on you that you didn't respond."

Currently serving as a member of the board of trustees, Qubein gave Mount Olive College credit for being the kind of institution that educates students—an institution that is daring, courageous.

"Mount Olive College prepares students prayerfully, purposely, and positively," he said. "Mount Olive College educates and teaches students how to think. And what America needs today is men and women who are educated, not merely trained."

He reminded all to "keep our eyes on the Giver." Qubein stressed that the College is on target and on track with its purpose.

"The guidance for this college is of the Lord," he said, "not of any man, any woman. It takes



At the Bridge Builders Dinner—George Harrison, center, and Alice Barrow, right, greet keynote speaker Nido Qubein following the Bridge Builders appreciation dinner at Mount Olive College. Mrs. Barrow is a member of the College board of trustees. Her husband is pastor of Piney Grove Church in Duplin County. Mr. Harrison, a retired MOC employee, is a member of Hull Road Church in Greene County (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

courage to proceed positively."

Qubein spoke of the College's needs, saying, "You are shareholders in this institution."

"If we are truly Bridge Builders," he said, "we must judge this college by its potential, not only look at its past, but at what has to be done." Qubein noted that the future of private institutions, especially those that are church-related, is going to be assured only if "the endowment is hefty enough." MOC, which currently has an endowment of about \$5 million, is seeking to build its endowment to \$25 million by the year 2000.

He spoke of the immediate need of a food services building for the college. "Students are still eating downtown, in a building that was condemned 39 years ago," he said. "Bridge Builders," he exhorted, "we can't allow that to happen."

"Generous friends of this institution," Qubein said, "we are honored and blessed by your presence this evening. You're not just quick to write a check, you're here. You identify with this college. It is in your thoughts, in your prayers. You have not given to this college because you want to be recognized."

Qubein concluded, "You Bridge Builders are building this bridge for future generations of young men and women who seek an education."

JEAN F. ACKISS HONORED AT BRIDGE BUILDERS DINNER

Jean F. Ackiss received a standing ovation at the Bridge Builders dinner in College Hall Saturday, September 29, when MOC's President Dr. W. Burkette Raper surprised her with a silver tray. The inscription read:

Jean F. Ackiss
In appreciation for 25 years
of dedicated service
to
Mount Olive College
Beginning September 17, 1965

The evening had been one of those occasions for fellowship and



Jean Fillingame Ackiss honored—Jean F. Ackiss, Mount Olive College Director of Church Support and coordinator of the 17 annual Free Will Baptist dinners, stands with MOC President Dr. W. Burkette Raper, left, and Nido R. Qubein, keynote speaker at the Bridge Builders Appreciation Dinner. Dr. Raper presented Mrs. Ackiss with a silver tray in appreciation of 25 years of service to the College (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

joy, honoring those who so faithfully support Mount Olive. The presentation to Mrs. Ackiss was the perfect finishing touch.

"Jean personifies the kind of commitment that has made Mount Olive College what it is," said Dr. Raper. "We're thankful and grateful."

"It's been my privilege these 25 years to work with you and the wonderful people at Mount Olive College," Mrs. Ackiss said. "I thank you, and I love you."

In 1959, Mrs. Ackiss entered Mount Olive College as a one-year business student. The young woman from Vanceboro worked her way through college. One of her duties was to clean the president's office. Five years after graduating she became Dr. Raper's secretary, serving in that capacity for the following 18 years.

In 1978, Mrs. Ackiss assumed full responsibility for the dinners which had begun in 1963. She was named director of church support in 1984, and in 1985, she took the reins of the Bridge Builders program.

The dinners have generated a total of \$3,216,682 since 1963. But

they have generated more than gift support—they have communicated to Free Will Baptists everywhere the importance of building a bridge to the future for both ministers and laypersons.

ATTEND THE COLLEGE DINNER IN YOUR COUNTY

Free Will Baptists and other friends of Mount Olive still have the opportunity to attend a gift support dinner for the College. Eight county dinners remain for 1990, the last to be held on November 15.

"Our dinners are right on target this year," says Jean F. Ackiss, director of church support at MOC and coordinator of the dinners. "We have met our goal at almost every dinner. I appreciate the county chairmen and the numerous volunteers that make the dinners come together. Every year they get better and better."

The 17 annual Mount Olive College dinners are held throughout eastern North Carolina each fall. Gift support from the dinners has made an important impact on the four-year program at MOC, and those Free Will Baptists who have joined the Bridge Builder

program have made an outstanding contribution.

There are three Bridge Builder Clubs: College Club, \$100-499; President's Club, \$500-999; and Trustees' Club, \$1,000 or more. In 1989-90, there were 1,080 Bridge Builders, 194 more than the previous year.

Dates and times of the remaining dinners are listed below. For information or reservations, call the county chairman. See you there.

Craven County, Thursday, November 1, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern, Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal: \$22,700.

Duplin County, Saturday, November 3, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School near Beulaville, William D. Thigpen, Chairman. Goal: \$13,675.

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 5, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church, Spiritual Life Building, Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hinnant, Co-Chairmen. Goal: \$39,400.

Washington-Martin-Tyrrell Counties, Thursday, November 8, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper, David Cahoon, Chairman. Goal: \$7,125.

Carteret County, Saturday, November 10, 6 p.m., West Carteret High School, Morehead City, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, Co-Chairmen. Goal: \$14,150.

Wilson County, Monday, November 12, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School near Wilson, James B. Hunt, Chairman. Goal: \$38,275.

Pitt County, Tuesday, November 13, 7 p.m., D. H. Conley High School near Winterville, Goal: \$32,000.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Thursday, November 15, 7 p.m., Clinton-Sampson Agri-Civic Center, Clinton, C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: \$18,000.

COME YE,
THANKFUL
PEOPLE
COME!

AN INSTANT CHURCH?

More than 700 churches in the United States, of various denominations, started up since 1986 with "instant" congregations. Well, the newest is Silver Creek Church, on the crystal coast of Cape Carteret.

On Sunday morning, October 14, 1990, the new church began meeting at the White Oak Elementary School. The permanent location will be on the Pelletiere Loop Road across from the Silver Creek Golf Course.

This new congregation came about as a result of a church planting endeavor of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination, headquartered in Ayden, North Carolina.

More than 9,000 phone calls were made by 50 volunteers from nine churches. They made the initial 45 second calls. Six hundred plus interested persons were willing to receive information concerning the new church.

It is not a new idea to use the phone to discover families who are not affiliated with a church and invite them to a new one. The techniques were developed by a Californian minister and later marketed as "The Phone's for You" by a California businessman, Norman Whan.

The Silver Creek Church will be under the Director/Pastor, the

Rev. Jerry Rowe. Mr. Richard Holmes, a senior ministerial student at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, will serve as the Youth Director, while Mrs. Addie Starnes will be the pianist.

On Celebration Sunday, Mr. Rowe indicated that this new church would offer, to all those who became members, the opportunity to develop meaning and purpose in life through Jesus Christ, that this is a *special church for special people*, designed with each person in mind. He also pointed out that their dreams, goals and success in life are important. In sharing the direction of the new church, he related that this is a place where everyone can discover a living, loving God who wants to touch their lives and where an individual can experience a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. This is to be a church where there will be a ministry for the entire family as well as a singles ministry and a care circle of small support groups designed to enrich the lives of those who need that special care.

So as a result of an initial phone call and five mailings over an eight-week period, an "instant" church has begun at Cape Carteret, North Carolina.



MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PRESS

Project EAST, initiated in February 1990 as "a center for regional self-examination," announces the creation of the Mount Olive College Press as one of the educational services available through the College. As an outgrowth of Project EAST, the Mount Olive College Press seeks to bring permanence to the voice of our people. Eastern North Carolina has a richness of experience yet to be expressed. The establishment of a regional press offers these writers a publishing process.

The Mount Olive College Press commits itself to publishing books of value that reflect the spirit, the vision, and the creativity of eastern North Carolina. The Press is a regional resource to record the memories, the feelings, and life experiences of our people.

At its Premiere on Tuesday evening November 27, 1990, at College Hall, the Mount Olive College Press will present two publications, Lee Davenport Witte's *Levora* and Pepper Worthington's *Travels With Dr. Pepper*. Both Mrs. Witte and Dr. Worthington are eastern North Carolina writers. The publication of a book of poetry and a collection of travel essays illustrates the diversity the Press seeks. Mrs. Witte and Dr. Worthington will participate in library, radio, and television programs during this week.

Inaugural Week Events

November 26 - December 2, 1990

November 26 *Carolina Today*, 7:40 a.m.

WNCT-TV Channel 9

Interview: Dr. Worthington

November 27 Premiere Dinner, 7:00 p.m.

College Hall

Mount Olive College

November 28 Jack Hankins Show, 8:00 a.m.

WELS, Kinston

Authors Interviewed

November 29 *Carolina Today*, 6:40 a.m.

WNCT-TV Channel 9

Interview: Ms. Witte

November 30 Nancy Gorr Show, 10:30 a.m.

WBTB, Newport

Taping for Show

December 1 Dee Gees Bookstore, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Morehead City Waterfront

Autograph Party

December 2 Somerset Plantation, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Creswell, North Carolina

Reading: Ms. Witte

December 2 Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church

7:00 p.m.

Reading: Ms. Witte

A Project EAST Production



Flyer Design
Pamela Swinson Viverette
Visual Communication

Mount Olive College Press

Premiere Dinner

Tuesday, November 27, 1990

7:00 p.m., College Hall

Mount Olive College

Meet the Authors



Levora

Lee Davenport Witte of Los Angeles, California,
formerly of Creswell, North Carolina.

... a southern woman's recollections of people,
events, fantasies, emotions and childhood roots. . .
in the Lake Phelps region of eastern North Carolina.



Travels With Dr. Pepper

A. Pepper Worthington of Kinston, North Carolina,
Mount Olive College Writer-in-Residence

... a delightful series of tales of a trek across
England, Wales, and Scotland. . . clear, concise,
flavorful.

Mary Belle Campbell, Editor-Publisher
Scots Plaid-Persephone Press

Autographed copies of these books will be available at the Premiere Dinner.

----- Detach and Return -----

Reply Form

_____ Yes, I plan to attend the Mount Olive College Press Premiere Dinner 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 27
in College Hall. There will be _____ in my party at \$5.00 each. Enclosed is my check for _____.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Reservations **must** be received by November 15.
(All friends of Mount Olive College are invited.)

Please Mail to:
Office of the President
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365
(919) 658-2502



YOU ARE INVITED!

MESSIAH

BY GEORGE FREDERIC HANDEL

presented by

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Department of Fine Arts

**Tuesday, December 4, 1990
8 o'clock in the evening**

**Sunday, December 9, 1990
4 o'clock in the afternoon**

**First Baptist Church
300 North Chestnut Street
Mount Olive, North Carolina**

**Carolyn M. Knox, Conductor
Irene Weldon, Vocal Instructor
Accompanied by a Chamber Orchestra**

CORPORATE SPONSOR

**Mount Olive College thanks Chas. F. Cates & Sons, Inc.,
Faison, North Carolina, for sponsoring the chamber orchestra.**



Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubile to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family. A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed. For it is the jubile; it shall be holy unto you: ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field. In the year of this jubile ye shall return every man unto his possession (Leviticus 25:9-13).

YEAR OF JUBILEE

To the followers of God in the Old Testament, there was a Year of Jubilee, a year of redemption, a year to rejoice in the fact that all men were "debt free." During the "fiftieth year" in the cycle of years, the Israelites were to be freed of any debt against them. The lands, cattle, or members of the family that had been indentured by borrowing from another person, were returned to the original owner. Then the fifty-year cycle would begin again. Thus, every fifty years the original owners were given their land, cattle or members of their family back.

Cragmont was officially purchased and plans were made to raise \$10,000 to pay for this land in August 1945. In August 1995, Free Will Baptists will have had the property for fifty years.

Let's make 1995 our "Year of Jubilee" for Cragmont. This can easily be done if you will join hundreds of other individuals, churches, and organizations over our state by giving \$1,000 to pay the present indebtedness. This is a period of five years. Your gift will help Cragmont become debt free.

Plans are being made and will be announced later for a "Year of Jubilee" celebration to be held during the year 1995. Join your Cragmont Board now and be a part of this year of rejoicing for a "DEBT-FREE" Cragmont in 1995.

(Turn the Page)

CRAGMONT YEAR OF JUBILEE GIFT/PLEDGE CARD
Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry
at
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
1233 North Ford Road
Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711

YES, you can count on me (us) to help Cragmont become *Debt Free* by 1995. I (we) hereby pledge a gift of \$1,000 toward debt reduction for Cragmont. This will be payable as follows:

- _____ Check enclosed for the full amount (\$1,000)
_____ \$200 per year, with first payment to be made on ____/____/____
_____ \$100 semiannually, with first payment to be made on ____/____/____
_____ \$ 50 quarterly, with first payment to be made on ____/____/____

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____

"SNOW HOUND"

A New Year's Retreat For Juniors, Seniors, and College-age Students

That's right a **winter** retreat. The dates are December 29, 1990—January 1, 1991.

A program on Ecology is planned:

Why should we as Christians be concerned about acid rain, toxic waste, trash dumps, etc.? What is the Christian's responsibility?

These are some of the questions we shall try to answer. Sporting activities will be planned:

Hiking, skiing and horseback riding to name a few.

Transportation is not provided. However, if you are interested in coming but do not have a way to get here, please let us know. We may be able to help you make arrangements with someone else who is coming.

Retreat cost—\$65 (other costs are listed below)

Skiing—approximately \$45

Horseback riding—approximately \$10 per hour.

Please return the form below with a \$10 deposit to register. We will send you more detailed information along with a medical form which must be filled out.

We are limited in space during the winter, therefore, the number of participants is limited to 50. This means you should get your registration in early.

Mail to: "Snow Hound," Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Age _____

WHAT IS THE CRAGMONT CLUB?

- A group of interested and committed supporters of Cragmont Assembly.

PURPOSE

- To create a feeling of ownership at the church member level.
- To bring the outstanding debt on the main building to a swift retirement.
- To create a cash flow with regularity.

BENEFITS

- You will be a partner in the Cragmont ministry.
- Your family will receive certain cost reductions while visiting Cragmont.

THE PLAN

- \$10/mo.—Free room and meals for immediate family for two days and nights/year.

We do have a senior citizen plan. If interested, please let us know.

*Cost reductions may not be used by participants of regularly scheduled conferences.

HOW DO I JOIN?

- Please fill in the form below.
- Send your check to:
Cragmont Assembly
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone 704-669-7677

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Please Give Complete Address.



CORNERSTONE

Fall Women's Mini-Retreat
Cragmont Assembly
Black Mountain, North Carolina
Friday-November 23—Sunday, November 25
(Thanksgiving Weekend)

Tentative Schedule— Friday, November 23
8:00 p.m.—Opening Service
Saturday, November 24
Morning, Bible Study and Music
Afternoon, Free for Your Own Adventures
Evening, Service
Sunday, November 25
6:30 a.m., Worship Service
7:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:00 a.m., Homeward Bound

(The early time for the Sunday service is to enable us to get ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday traffic as we head for home.)

COST: \$10.00 registration
\$35.00 balance due on arrival
\$45.00 total

Includes 2 nights, 3 meals Saturday, 1 meal Sunday.

If you have questions, please call:

Co-Directors: Dola Dudley, (919) 934-6160
Becky Jo Sumner, (919) 332-2772 or (919) 332-6810

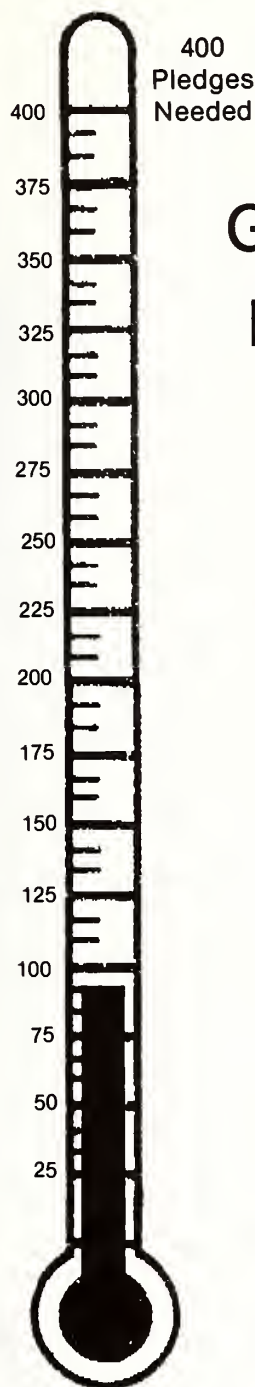
REGISTRATION FOR CORNERSTONE 1990

Name _____

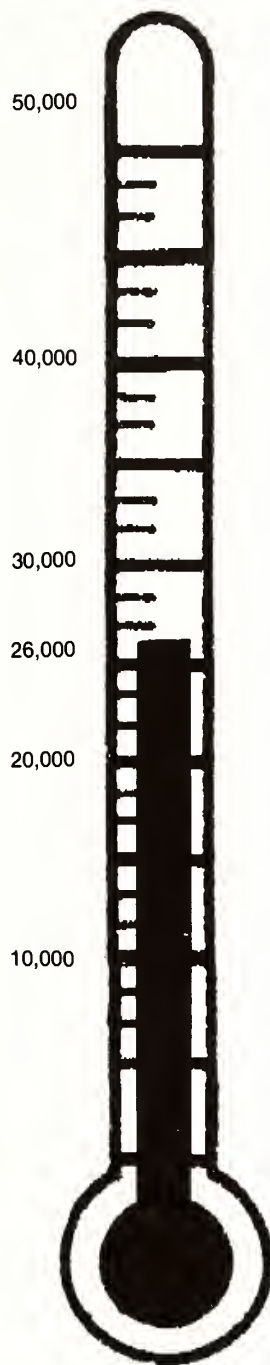
Address _____

Phone _____

Mail Registration fee and
the form below to:
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580



GO THE
EXTRA
MILE



In order for Cragmont to be debt-free in 1995, approximately \$400,000 needs to be raised. Cragmont is looking for 400 supporters who will pledge \$1,000 each for this goal. Will you help?

For more information, contact Cragmont by phoning (704) 669-7677.

In order to make this year's annual payment on December 31, 1990, we need your help now. The amount needed is \$50,000. So far we have been able to save \$26,000 toward this payment.

TAKE THE TIME TO SAY, "THANK YOU!"

It is not really difficult to say, "Thank you!" But you would surely think differently if you sat where many Christian workers sit. Few are the words of appreciation they receive. Many are the complaints. Few are the times when those in full-time service feel as though anyone cares about their needs. Many are the occasions when they are expected to give at least 150% of themselves—and sometimes they are too drained to even feel.

I would like to challenge congregations throughout the state to do several things: **First**, pray for your church leaders. Lift them and their needs before the Lord. **Second**, express your appreciation to those who serve you and your congregation. Let them know something besides criticism. **Third**, record your actions and share them with others. Take the time to write down what your organization, class or church did. Send these articles to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

You will be surprised the difference the words "Thank you" can make in someone's day. Try it and see.

*Thank
You*



STATE CONVENTION UPDATE (Continued) . . .

Following are other reports given at the 1990 annual session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

The following two constitutional changes were passed at the 1990 session.

Article I, Section I

This assembly shall be known as the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. (Formerly, this article read, "This assembly shall be known as the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free

Article III, Section I

President: It shall be the duty of the president to preside over each session, preserve order, govern the body according to established parliamentary usage, and to work with a subcommittee of three from the Executive Committee to appoint all temporary committees. He shall have the power to declare any office of the convention vacant, temporarily, subject to the approval of the

convention or the executive committee; he shall have authority to call meetings of the executive committee, when such is needful, and preside over said meetings.

The president shall be ex officio member of all boards, standing committees, and commissions of the convention.

(The first sentence formerly read, "It shall be the duty of the president to preside over each session, preserve order, govern the body according to established parliamentary usage, and appoint all temporary committees.")

FINAL REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Final report of the Credentials Committee is as follows:

Ordained Ministers	202
Pre-registered.....133	(17 not here)
Convention Registered	69
Delegates	280
Pre-registered	212
Convention Registered	68
Conferences	3
Visiting Ministers.....	4
Visitors.....	64
Licensed Ministers.....	2
Members of the Convention	3
Total Registered Attendance at This Convention	558

Conference	Ministers on Roll	Ministers Present	Delegates Present
Albemarle	12	10	83%
Cape Fear	50	29	53%
Central	50	42	84%
Eastern	101	49	49%
Pee Dee	27	7	26%
Piedmont	32	7	22%
Western	83	58	70%
TOTAL	355	202	77%

Members on Roll 32,784
Total Possible Delegates 328
Percentage of Representation 85%

We recommend the seating of all delegates and ministers who are properly appointed and designated as delegates by their church, and that the aforesaid be extended the privilege of voting in this 78th Annual Session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronnie V. Hobgood, Chairman
Frankie Baggett
Ray Everton
Kim Barnes
Bettie Smith

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Resolution Number One

BE IT RESOLVED that the following proposal be adopted as a constitutional amendment during the Seventy-ninth (1991) session of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists as an addition to Article II, Section 15 entitled Executive Committee:

... No persons shall be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee while they are a member of any other board, standing committee or commission of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists or any of our denominational ministries (institutions and enterprises).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article III, Section 23 be deleted.

This resolution was given to the Executive Committee for further study.

Resolution Number Two

INASMUCH as our Convention has adopted "Hear the Word of the Lord" as its theme for the next five years,

AND WHEREAS the year 1990-91 has been declared the Year of Commitment;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Convention, in this its seventy-eighth annual session, renew its commitment to the Word of God and that we pledge ourselves to live more faithfully by its precepts and truths, thus allowing it to be "... a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path" (Psalm 119:105).

Resolution Number Three

WHEREAS patriotism seems to have reached a low ebb in our society,

AND WHEREAS so many of our fine men and women are risking their lives to guarantee the many freedoms which we enjoy;

BE IT RESOLVED that we encourage our churches to assume the leadership in promoting prayerful concern for our servants of God and country.

Resolution Number Four

WHEREAS Mount Olive College has been a gracious host in providing facilities for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists during this Seventy-eighth Annual Session;

BE IT RESOLVED that we extend a rising vote of thanks for their gracious service.

Resolution Number Five

WHEREAS the Executive Committee and other servants of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists have given freely of their time and efforts to carry on this part of God's work;

BE IT RESOLVED we extend to them a rising vote of appreciation for their gracious service.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

President: Scott Sowers

Vice President: Ray Wells

Treasurer: Leon Harris

Executive Committee: Cape Fear—Peyton Lee

Central—Phil Wood

Eastern—Justin Kornegay

Children's Home: Leon Grubbs, Donnie Tyndall, Jerry Smith

Foreign Missions: Ed Gonzalez

Minister's Program: Jeff Scarborough

Commission on Free Will Baptist Fellowships:

David Hines

Mount Olive College: De Wayne Eakes, Jane Tyson

Tripp, Wendell Murphy, C. B. Hinnant, W. C.

Martin, Raymond Sasser (honorary), Louise

Edgerton (honorary)

Retirement Homes Board: Kenneth Hardison,

Mildred Jenkins,

Home Missions: Howard McPherson, Charles

Lynwood Renfrow (to fill unexpired term of Ray

Wells)

Historical Commission: Jeff Daughtry

Scouting Commission: Marlene Everette, Rose

Raper

Chaplain's Commission: Michael Pelt, (to fill unexpired term of Dan Rivers), J. B. Narron

Cragmont Assembly: Bobby Pennington, Joe

Ingram

Board of Trustees: James Joyner

Church Finance Association Representative: Ralph Sumner

Free Will Baptist Press Representative: Henry Armstrong

Layman's League Board: Elmer Harrell, J. M.

Langley, Raymond Gray, Stanley Jenkins,

E. C. Hines (to fill unexpired term of Dallas

Foreman)

Board of Publications: Aubrey Williamson

Sunday School Board: Bobby Foy, Joe Griffith,

Thomas Parrish



BY INSPIRATION OF GOD

by the Rev. C. H. Overman

Our theme for the next five years is, "Hear the Word of the Lord." Thus it seems quite appropriate that we reaffirm our belief in God's Holy Word, and that we dedicate ourselves anew to its truths and that we determine to stand firmly upon the Word. Article 8, of our *Articles of Faith*, states: "We believe these are the Old and New Testaments, that they were written by Holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. We believe that they are a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service." If it is not the inspired word to us, then we do not really have a foundation upon which to stand, much less to build upon.

2 Timothy 3:16 declares: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

Living Letters from the *Life Application Bible* reads: "The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right." The note on this verse states: "The whole Bible is God's inspired Word. Because it is inspired and trustworthy, we should read it and apply it to our lives. The Bible is our standard for testing everything else that claims to be true. It is our safeguard against false teaching and our source of guidance for how we should live. It is our holy source of knowledge about how we can be saved. God wants to show you (us) what is true and equip (us) to live for him." Verse 17 of the same chapter teaches that the inspired Word is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone."

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." The *Open Bible* states concerning this verse: "Upon this statement of fact, evangelical Christianity stands. As understood in our country among the theologians, and as stated in *The Moody Handbook of Theology*, the word 'evangelical' is understood 'to denote one who holds to the historical doctrines of the faith.'"

I have been ordained into the gospel ministry for almost 38 years. I was reared in a Christian home. From earliest memories I recall being taught the great, yet simple, truths of the Word in my home church (Union Grove) by teachers (Mrs. Geneva Pope, Mrs. Deanne Morris) and preachers who stood upon the authority of the inspired Word of God. My earliest training in the gospel ministry was based upon the belief that the Bible is truly the Word of God—that is God-breathed. I have never digressed from that belief. I would have no truth if I thought the Bible merely contained the Word. It would be of little value if I believed in only those parts that I could understand through my own feeble human reasoning and limited wisdom. I could not proclaim the gospel, the good news, if I doubted the miracles of this holy, inspired Word.

All of my ministry bears evidence to my belief that it is the inspired Word of God. My writings of past Sunday School lessons, and more than 500 editorials written during my 11 years as editor of *The Free Will Baptist*, more than 20 years ago, gives eternal testimony to the fact that I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God. What I have written, I have written regarding the Word of God. With reference to the American Declaration of Independence, one of our founding forefathers of that era, declared: "What it says it says for all times." So it is with our stand or belief concerning the Word, and so it is with the Word itself. What it says, it says! What it teaches, it teaches! The truths of God as recorded therein have remained the same. The Ten Commandments have not been declared null and void. The Word of Jesus concerning man's conduct and responsibility to God have not been discontinued.

Most of us like to hear someone speak with authority. I don't think I've ever heard anyone ask Margaret Thatcher what she meant about her position in political matters. She says what she means and means what she says (or so it seems).

At his ecclesiastical trial, the Diet of Worms,

(Turn the Page)



when asked to retract his teachings that contradicted those of the Roman Catholic Church, Martin Luther answered: "Unless I am refuted and convinced by testimonies of the Scriptures or by clear arguments . . . my conscience is bound in the Word of God: I cannot and will not recant anything." Would to God that all who preach and teach would with equal firmness declare, "my conscience is bound in the Word of God."

I believe, then, as you do (I hope) that Free Will Baptists have historically and traditionally believed in the inspiration of the Scriptures; that it is a book of miracles, prophecies, and divine truth; that it is the basis for everything we stand upon; that without it, and without this belief in it, we might as well "close up shop," which may be what some are doing because evidence mounts that the Word is being ignored and unheeded.

We may so easily become so concerned about the various theological views concerning the Word, that we lose the power which is available through the Word. We are bemoaning the fact that people, church members, too, will not heed the Word of God. Those who attend our revivals are mostly active church members, with fewer and fewer lost people coming to the services, and very few young people. We forget that the Word is powerful, if we believe it and know it and preach it. It declares of itself: "For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). "The Word of God is not merely words from God, a vehicle for communicating ideas; it is living, life-changing, and dynamic as it works in us. With the incisiveness of a surgeon's knife, it

reveals who we are and what we are not. It discerns what is within us, both good and evil. We must not only listen to the word; we must let it shape our lives" (*Living Letters*).

The inspiration of the Scriptures is expressed by such expressions as: "Thus saith the Lord," "The Word of the Lord came," "it is written," "according to the Scripture," and many others. Why then can we not proclaim it in love, grace and power? Is it because we doubt, or because we simply have no such convictions?

Paul's words to Timothy remind us that:

I. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for doctrine. (Doctrine is simply "something that is taught.")

Our *Articles of Faith* are based upon the truths of the inspired Word of God. Read it! Study it! Check out the Scripture references footnoting each of our *Articles*. Many of other denominations have attested to the truth of our doctrines—that they are scripturally sound.

As leaders in our churches, we are obligated to defend our doctrines, to guard against ideas and practices contrary to the truth of the Scriptures and our beliefs. Ministers are to guard the flock. Yet, the history of our denomination is marked by turmoil and division because of those "who came among us, but they were not of us." Personally, I will never understand how someone can profess to be one of us in doctrine and practice, and then preach and teach doctrines that are contrary to our true beliefs! But it does happen. God pronounces a woe upon those who scattered the flock of God (Jeremiah 23:1) with unscriptural teachings and practices. Thus we need to be ever mindful of our true teachings as presented in our *Articles of Faith*.

II. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for reproof. (Reproof "is criticism for a fault.") To reprove is to "scold or correct, usually gently or with kindly intent."

How willing are people today to allow the Word of God to reprove—to correct? Needless to say, most of the people of this age, or time, simply do not put themselves in position to allow the Word, through the Holy Spirit, to do His work. We know it has to be read and studied by each Christian. We know, too, that those who need its reproof the most are not in earshot of its teachings or preaching. They simply are not involved in the church.

III. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for correction, which means that it is profitable to "bring into conformity with a standard."

It seems that we are too often afraid to apply the Word for correction. For example, our young people—our youth. I remember a discussion on one occasion about whether to allow youth on a bus trip to take their "boxes" on the bus. Some thought if you didn't let them they would not take the trip, but such was not the case. We are responsible to correct, applying the authority of the Word. We seek to bring our children into conformity to certain standards of conduct. As children of God, our Heavenly Father seeks to bring us into conformity to the standards of His Holy Word. But man is often stubborn and refuses the corrective power of the word.

IV. The Inspired Word of God is profitable for "instruction in righteousness."

There is no better source for such instruction. Indeed, as a nation, we are reaping the harvest for our neglect of the Word. It has been placed on the upper shelf—out of reach of a nation that is caught up in secularism and materialism, and hundreds of other "isms" and cults.

For fear of losing them and hurting them, we have said to our youth, "Church is not important. The preaching of the Word is outdated," so we offer them other things—trips, competitions, entertainment—fun, but not much preaching or biblical teaching. And the Bible asks, "How shall they hear without a preacher?" It further declares, "... it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Corinthians 1:21). One major problem that many are now expressing is the fact that we don't have young men being called into the gospel ministry. Little wonder, we have stopped preaching to them in our district and state meetings. We cannot recall the past, but can't you, along with me, remember when it was the simple, yet powerful Word of God that resulted in conversions of our youth and then their commitment to

the will of God? We are afraid if we correct them, if we instruct them in the truths of God, we will lose them—so we have lost many of them anyway.

A study of great spiritual awakenings reveals that they have come when God's people became willing and anxious to receive the truths of the Word of God. When we begin to pray as the Bible teaches, when we study the Word, when we hunger and thirst after righteousness, then the power of the inspired Word can work its miracle of love in our hearts and souls will be born into the Kingdom of God.

Paul instructed Timothy: "Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:2). It is the proclamation of the Word of God that is needed, for it is the "Good News" that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord that can transform lives. It is Christ who can change human nature.

In 1833 Charles Darwin went to the South Sea Islands looking for the so-called "missing link." As he studied the cannibals who lived there he concluded that no creatures anywhere were more primitive, and he was convinced that nothing on earth could possibly lift them to a higher level. Darwin believed he had truly found a lower level of humanity that could fit his theory of evolution. But thirty-four years later he returned to the same islands. To his utter amazement he discovered schools, churches, and homes occupied by some of the former cannibals. In fact, many of them wore clothes and gathered frequently to sing hymns of praise to God. The reason soon became evident. Missionary John G. Patton had been there proclaiming the truths of the gospel and salvation in Christ. Darwin was so moved by the transformation of the natives that he made a generous contribution to the London Missionary Society.

In the August 1983 segment of "Crossfire," the interviewer of Watergate figure Charles Colson admitted he was once an utter and total skeptic of Colson's conversion to Christ. Chuck Colson was no saint; the things he did were terrible. Yet after getting to know him, after seeing his work over the past ten years since his conversion, even this skeptic stated on nationwide television with enthusiasm in his voice that this was "one of the greatest transformations of recent history."

On the night of December 31, 1949, He transformed me. It happened because the inspired Word had been placed before me and after several years of conviction I acknowledged my sin and asked Christ into my life.

May we truly "hear the Word of the Lord."

The above sermon was delivered by the Rev. C. H. Overman on September 11, 1990, at the Night of Evangelism.

"HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD"

The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

As I began to pray, and to think about this message some months ago after being asked, one Scripture that kept coming to my mind is found in the Book of Nehemiah 8:5 where we read: "And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up." That, of course, was in reverence to the Word of God. We have lived in our society today where the Word of God is before us in our Bibles, on our coffee tables, on our shelves so often that sometimes I think that we have not been as reverent to it as we should, and so I want you to take your Bible and turn with me to our Scripture lesson for today: 2 Timothy 3:10-17.

But thou has fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, Persecutions, afflictions which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium and Lystra; what persecutions I endured. But out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But continue thou in the things thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction and righteousness; That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

I. INTRODUCTION

As we think about this theme, "Hear the Word of the Lord," we must turn our attention to our doctrine in Article 8, where it is entitled "The Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures," and there we read these words concerning our position on the Holy Scriptures: It says, "We believe these are the Old and New Testaments that were written by holy men inspired by the Holy Spirit and are God's revealed word to man. We believe that they are a sufficient and infallible true rule in God to salvation and all Christian worship and service."

I fully support this doctrine of our Convention. I pray that everyone of us supports this doctrine because it is certainly scripturally sound. Though we see as Paul is writing to Timothy here, that he says that God's Word has been given to make people wise unto salvation. If we as a church miss that purpose of the church, we have missed it all; because as I understand the church, we have two main missions and one of those missions is to make people wise unto salvation that they might accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. And then one we may have neglected is this of where Jesus teaches us to help people to become disciples. When we fail to do those two things then we have missed, I believe, the two main goals of the church.

We must be more than Christians; we must become disciples of Jesus Christ. If we will look unto the Holy Scriptures, God's Word will be made wise unto us and we will be able to train people to become disciples.

We are studying in the church where I serve now, a study from a book entitled, *Disciples Are Made, Not Born*. We are born into the family of God as we accept Him as our personal Saviour. But God expects us to train people to become disciples and we must follow His example and make people wise unto salvation. This simply means as Paul is writing here that we must be faithful to God; we must be faithful to the commission that He has given us in sharing the good news of Christ and the good news of salvation. All of the Word of God from Genesis to Revelation has been given to help you and me as ministers and as laity to understand God's Word and to grow in our faith, that we might be involved in that other doctrine that we have called sanctification, that we might truly be growing in our faith. Paul, he puts it like this to Timothy, he says, "that the man of God may be perfect." Now this does not mean that you and I will reach the kind of perfection that everything we do is right. I imagine you may know somebody that thinks that, but he is wrong. And I am sure that you have encountered that at your churches at times, but that is not what Paul is speaking about, because he goes on and says that, "The man of God might be thoroughly furnished." That means, I believe, that God will help us in every area of our lives as we seek to become mature Christians or mature disciples in the will of God.

We find over in the Book of Hebrews these words concerning the Word of the Lord. It says that "The Word of God is quick and it is powerful and it is sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." So God's Word to us is sharp or it is quick; it is powerful, and that means that God's Word is alive in our world in which we live. We hear a lot of negative things about the church today in our communities that we live in, but let me say that the church is alive today; and let me go further to say that Free Will Baptists are alive today in the communities in which we are serving. Don't let anyone say to you that they are not, because they are alive. And as we become the disciples that God would have us to be, then we will be powerful, and that simply means that we will be active in God's service as the Holy Spirit indwells our life and leads us as the disciples that God would have us to be. Then that other word that we use often

from that text that the Word of God is *sharp*. As I was researching that word, I found this translation of it, "that it cuts." When we proclaim faithfully the Word of the Lord, it will cut where I cannot cut as a pastor or you as a lay person. But it cuts only where God through His Holy Spirit can cut into the hearts of people that will bring about change, that will bring about confession of sin, and will bring about the salvation of souls. So let's be faithful in proclaiming the Word of the Lord. So the Word of the Lord will help us as individuals and as a church to listen to His Word.

A. LISTEN

As you begin to read it, it will cause you to listen. In Romans 10:17, it says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." There cannot be faith in Christ Jesus unless the gospel, the one made flesh, is proclaimed so that people can hear and believe. We must be faithful in preaching that Word. Saving faith, how does it come about? It comes about when we proclaim the Word of God, preaching the Word and nothing else but the Word, and about Jesus Christ as the Lord of our life and as our resurrected Saviour. When we preach that Word, response will come.

The Bible tells us in this same Book of Romans, in that same chapter, "that if we will confess with our mouth and believe with the heart that God hath raised His son Jesus Christ, thou shalt be saved." So we must proclaim the Word. The Bible tells us the Word is nigh to us, it is here, and we must just proclaim that Word that people might respond to the good news of Jesus Christ. Salvation and faith are not going to come about if we just preach philosophy, psychology or some political remedy; but it comes about when we preach the Word. All those other things we must be aware of, they must be a part of our life indeed; but the main thing is preaching the Word, because as the Bible says that people will be saved by the foolishness of preaching, and we must proclaim the Word of God.

We must sow our seeds of faith on the good ground that people might listen to God's Word and be able to hear the Word. The Gospel writer put it in Luke 8:15, "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."

One that has an honest and a good heart, after he has heard the Word of the Lord, what does he do with that Word? He keeps it, he puts it in his heart, he puts it in his life; and because he does that he will bring forth fruit, and he will bring it forth with patience. So Christians must hear the Word of the Lord, and they must keep that Word and if they do that, they will bring forth fruit. As I think about listening to the Word and being obedient unto God

November 1990



The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood delivered this sermon during the 1990 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Mr. Hobgood is moderator of the Central Conference and serves as pastor of First Church, Greenville.

and sowing the seeds of faith, I am always reminded of Psalm 126:5-6 where we find the psalmist recording these words, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him." Now I want you to listen to what this psalm is saying here to you and me as we go back to our local churches, to those communities that we serve, and I don't know of any church that we have that is not in a place where they cannot reach people for Jesus Christ. But the psalmist has said here that if we would sow our seeds with tears, and that means laboring, by going out, that people might be able to hear the Word of God, that we would reap with joy. Joy would be in our hearts, because when we weep and when we cry about those seeds that we are planting, God says in His Word that you might bring some sheaves with it. That is wrong, isn't it? That is not what the Word said. The Word said not that you might, not that you may; but the Word said, "Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him." We have God's assurance when we obey His Word, when we listen to His Word and are obedient to it,

(Turn the Page)

that the fruit will come, the fruit will come if we will be obedient to it. So I pray that God will help us to listen to the Word of the Lord.

B. UNDERSTAND

Then we need to also understand the Word of the Lord. The Book of Luke again in Chapter 24:45, we read these words concerning the disciples. (This has taken place after the Resurrection of Jesus.) It says, "Then opened he their understanding that they might understand the scriptures." Jesus did this and Jesus can do it for you. But another Scripture that means so much to me in that same chapter is, as you recall, the story of Jesus on the road to Emmaus, after He had left the two disciples there. The disciples looked at each other and said, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he opened the scriptures?" A question I have for you as God's child this morning: When was the last time you had a heart-burning experience in the Holy Scriptures? When was that last time? It doesn't come by picking up your Bible here and yonder at the convenient times in your life. It comes when you set aside time in your life to read God's Word and let it speak to your heart. When you find that time that is important to you and you say this is my time to let God speak to me through His Word, that I might have that burning experience, when that happens, understanding will come. But understanding is not going to come to us as Christians if we don't spend time in studying the Word of God. We have got to study God's Word. The Bible says to us to "Study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth." Our understanding will only take place when we are willing to be that workman that God wants us to be, when we are willing to take time out of our schedules and study God's Word. As a pastor, the most important thing that you have to do is to study God's Word that you might faithfully proclaim that Word when you stand in the pulpit.

If you recall the Early Church, when the church was persecuted and they were scattered, the apostles stayed at Jerusalem and studied the Word. The first deacons were set aside to minister unto the church so that the apostles might be able to spend more time concerning the Word of God. And so I challenge all of us as pastors this morning, that if we want a better understanding of God's Word, a greater vision for our church and our denomination, we must spend more time in God's Word and we will find it there. The Holy Spirit can open our understanding if we are willing to yield ourselves to Him.

If we are going to understand God's Word, we must believe God's Word. We must let it be a part of our life and saturate our life in such a way that it is with us at all times. The psalmist said, "For thou wilt light my candle, the LORD my God will

enlighten my darkness." If we will just let the Lord light our candle and let His light shine through us, the darkness that we have will be done away with. God's Word will do away with the darkness because God's Word is light, and God's Word is here in our world to take men out of the sin of darkness and put them into the righteousness of the light of God. And that is what we need to be proclaiming. That is what we need to be understanding as we listen to the Word of God. As we find in Acts 26:18, "To open our eyes and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins, and an inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."

So what can Christ do for your understanding as you think about the Word of the Lord? First, He can open your eyes. Christ can help you to see as you have never seen before. He can help you not look through your eyes, but look through the eyes of Jesus Christ. Look through His eyes, look as Jesus would look upon those in need in your community, and God will increase your vision. Second, we see that Christ can turn our eyes from the darkness to the light. Because, before Christ, a man faces the wrong way, but after Christ he faces the light and the path is clear. He doesn't promise us when we accept Him as our personal Saviour, nor when we become His disciple, that the road is going to become completely smooth at all times; He did not promise that. But He did promise that if we would trust in Him and acknowledge Him in all of our ways, that He would direct our paths.

I grew up on my granddaddy's farm. My dad was not a farmer, but Granddaddy had one farm that was divided by a dirt road; and I know what it meant to ride on a bumpy road at times, especially with a tractor that had no springs on it, you know what I am talking about. But I also remember the Department of Transportation "drag man" that would come along at times and smooth that road. Afterwards, you could go just as fast as you wanted to on it. And I am saying to you through that illustration this morning, that at times the road will be bumpy. But if we will trust in God, there will come a time that He will smooth that road, and we will be able to travel that road that He has set before us. We can travel it with confidence; we can travel it with patience; and we can do the work that God has called us to do, that people might see that Jesus Christ is the light. We also see from this Scripture that I have read that Christ transfers a man from the power of Satan to the power of God. We need that to happen in our world today.

The county that I serve in, my church, and many of the churches of our conference is Pitt County. I am told by county statisticians that only 40 percent of our population is attending church today. Our attendance percentage is one of the highest seven

counties in our state (of all 100 of them). So I know for First Church in Greenville and the churches in that area, that our opportunities are great, that there are many people that are unchurched, and they need to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. They need to be transferred from the power of Satan to the power of God. They need a transformation to take place in their life. And it will come about when we listen to God's Word and when we seek His understanding; because when that happens, we will see where you and I need to be.

We need to be where that sick person is, we need to be where that person is that has lost a loved one, we need to be at that house where no one is saved, that we might have some influence upon them. We need to help those in financial needs within our community; and the list could go on and on of those that we need to help. And again I remind you, look, not through your own understanding, but through the understanding of Jesus Christ.

I am reminded of a man from the church I served previously in La Grange, and some of the members are here and they can testify to this, that there was a member of our church who had a son. I got a call one day as I was pastoring. "They" said so and so is in the hospital in Goldsboro, he has been stabbed several times and is really not expected to live. I immediately went to the hospital and talked with the individual who was able to talk and we prayed there. He did not accept Christ that day, but we continued to pray for him. And I want you to know that God healed him. He went back home and one day he called me and he asked me to come around. I went to his house, and he said, "I want to get my life straight." He said, "I have been in the darkness long enough." And there in his living room, he prayed the Sinner's Prayer, he was baptized in the church and became an active member of the church. But many people had said, "You will never reach him, you will never be able to get him to an understanding of Jesus Christ." My friends, we underestimate the power that God has given us when we trust in Him. He has told us in His great commission there that all power is His, and if we will trust Him, He will give us that power that we might proclaim His Word that souls might be saved, that people might be turned from darkness unto the light, that their understanding might come about in life. Maybe we, as Christians in our churches, need to pray that our understanding will be open and that we might be receptive to the Word of God. So Christ forgives a man of his sin and he is able to share with those who are sanctified in Jesus Christ.

C. ACT

So we must listen to God's Word; we must be willing to understand God's Word, and third, we must act upon God's Word. In James, Chapter 1, is the

Scripture that every one of you probably know, it says, "But be you doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." This verse of Scripture gives us the meaning of the Word. If we are sincere in our commitment to Jesus Christ, we are going to do more than accept Jesus Christ; we are going to get up and we are going to do our part. We are going to go forth with the gospel of Jesus Christ, bearing those precious seeds; and doubtless, we are going to come again rejoicing, bringing our sheaves with us.

The world today, my friend, is not reading God's Word; many Christians are not reading God's Word. They are "reading" the minister at the local church; they are looking at that lay person in that church; my friend, they are reading you as their Bible, because you say you are a Christian. And someone has expressed it this way and I would like to share this little poem with you. It says that "The Gospel is written a chapter a day, by deeds that you do and by words that you say. Men read what you say, whether faithless or true say 'What is the Gospel according to you?' " Can people in your community look at your life and see Jesus? If they can't, when we close this service out with the last hymn, you ought to come up here and pray and get things right with the Lord, that they might be able to see Christ living within you.

I heard an illustration some years ago, and I have never forgotten it, and it was simply this: If someone carried you to court because of your Christian faith, could your lawyer find enough evidence to present to the jury to convict you of being a Christian? Think about that this morning. Could people find enough from your life in your community where you live to convict you of being a Christian? just think about that. And that would tell you if you are acting upon the Word of God. The Word of God demands us to get up and to put on our armour and to go forth with the good news of Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

When God's children listen to His Word, when God's children understand God's Word, they will go to the work.

I would like to share from the words of a great hymn that we sing often in our churches. It is entitled, "To the Work," and it goes like this,

"... To the work! we are servants of God,
Let us follow the path that our Master has trod ...
let the hungry be fed ...
let the weary be led ...
there is labor for all ...
to the work; to the work!
let us hope, let us trust,
let us watch and pray,
and labor till the Master comes."

by C. H. Overman
Convention General Secretary

PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT

As previously expressed in "Notes and Quotes," we are grateful for the response of our churches in the support of our promotional work. There has been an increase each year in the support of the office of General Secretary. For example, contributions received at the last three sessions of the Convention have increased from \$11,396 in 1988 to \$14,341 in the 1990 session. These amounts represent monies for delegate and ministers' registration, and also contributions that are sent in with the report forms. It does not include other financial support that is received throughout the year. Thus, when comparing the 1989-90 budget of \$23,625 with the 1990-91 budget of \$27,425, one will find only an increase of \$3,800. The increase for the General Secretary's office and office administration is only \$1,400.

It is our conviction that the Convention should plan for a full-time General Secretary as soon as feasible. There's a lot of promotional work that cannot be adequately carried out on a part-time basis. In the area of public relations the need is great; but time is limited. If a full-time General Secretary is hired, even greater support will be necessary. In looking over the contributions of our churches to the promotional work of our Convention, only one hundred of our churches contributed \$50 or more. A good number, however, contributed more than \$100. Quite a few are still sending in the amounts that were sent in twenty or twenty-five years ago, such as, \$15—\$25.

If the promotional work of our Convention is to accomplish its true purpose, then each of our churches must give at least the recommended amount of \$1 per member and this will have to be done on a consistent basis.

Again we want to thank you for your support. We invite you to visit our Headquarters. If we can be of service to you or your church, please feel free to call on us. We are here to serve you—our Free Will Baptist friends.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

The Convention bulletin, depicting our five-year theme, "Hear the Word of the Lord," is now available. They are free and may be ordered from our Headquarters. We also have copies of the pamphlet depicting our denominational ministries.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Convention's Executive Committee met at the Headquarters on October 15, 1990. This was the first meeting since the Convention convened in September. There are three new members on the Executive Committee: Peyton Lee of the Cape Fear Conference, the Rev. Phil Wood of the Central Conference, and the Rev. Ray Wells of the Western Conference, who is the new vice president. The Rev. Leon Harris was on the Executive Committee previously, but was elected as treasurer.

Under the leadership of the new president, the Rev. Scott Sowers, the Executive Committee had a very good and productive meeting. We are looking forward to a year of progress and greater unity among our churches and ministries. It's great to be a Free Will Baptist and to be a part of its outreach and ministry. Please remember the work of the Convention and especially the Executive Committee in your prayers.

A GOOD MESSAGE

From what I understand about him and the work the Lord is doing through him, the young minister I am going to refer to probably would not want anyone

to "sort" of brag on him. But, here goes.

In visiting the different conferences, etc., it is my privilege to hear many fine sermons, and also messages from our lay people. On October 10, I was in attendance at the Albemarle Conference which convened at Sidney Church. The pastor of that fine church is the Rev. Franklin Baggett, and Brother Baggett delivered the Convention's message. The Lord surely used him to bless the hearts of all who were present. It's just great to know that we have such a young minister on the scene. Then, too, Sidney Church is growing both spiritually and numerically. Free Will Baptists can expect to hear more from this young, unassuming minister.

IF A CHURCH IS TO GROW

(Note: the following is taken from "The Mount Tabor Messenger." The pastor of Mount Tabor Church, near Creswell, NC, is the Rev. Dale Weaver.)

What attitudes and aims must be present for a church to begin experiencing growth? It takes just the proper atmosphere and chemistry—or should I say, the proper humility and submission—for a church to see growth. Four things figure strongly into this: (1) **A Proper Foundation—the Word of God.** Many churches stress organizational growth, programs, plans . . . all of which are very important! But the very basic necessity for a church to grow is a proper attitude toward the Bible. To accept its authority, inspiration and truth, and put into practice its infallible instructions, will bring growth (Isaiah 55:11).

(2) **A Proper Focus—the Son of God.** In looking at the Scriptures, I always think about the Apostle Peter, when I think about Christians trying to accomplish something for God. You know the

(Continued on Page 40)

PSALM CONFUSION

Thanksgiving is almost here. As we get ready for celebrating, we begin to think about all of the things that God has given us to enjoy and all of the many times He has helped us. We also think about Psalm 100. You have probably learned this Psalm before in Sunday School. Another one you may know is Psalm 23. Do you sometimes get the two confused? Let's see how well you remember each. Below, you will find lines from the Twenty-third Psalm mixed in with those of the Hundredth Psalm. Read carefully and try to remember which lines do not belong in Psalm 100. Check in your Bible to find out if you're right.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD; all ye lands.

Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Know ye that the LORD he is God: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;

Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

Be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting;

And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

And his truth endureth to all generations.



HELP SPREAD "POINTS OF LIGHT" TO A THOUSAND PLACES WHILE HELPING YOURSELF TO A STAR SPANGLED CHRISTMAS!

"... Mail Call was a real morale booster and a pleasant surprise to us all. It made us proud to be Americans, knowing so many stood behind us as we fought in Panama," wrote the commander of an airborne unit which saw action in "Operation Just Cause" in Panama during December 1989. His letter illustrates the immense morale boost experienced by those *receiving* cards and letters through Christmas Mail Call.

Another letter, this one from a 4-H group leader, gave the perspective of those who *send* the Christmas greetings... *"What an experience! Especially exciting were replies received from servicemen and women involved in 'Operation Just Cause' in Panama. Letters were read at school during discussions of world events. 'Knowing' someone who was there made all the difference!"*

"Mail Call" combines greetings from thousands of Americans, from Alaska to Florida and Hawaii to Maine, and re-sorts it all into more than a thousand bundles ranging in size from 25 to 4,000+ cards. Each of those bundles is sent to a unit or location across the United States (more than 40 states) and every corner of the globe. Some participants have received responses from every continent, and schools have begun to display world maps and mark with maptacks all the locations from which the students receive responses.

The twin goals are to include mail from many people and places *in each of those thousand-plus outgoing bundles, and to spread each individual's cards/letters as widely as possible. To learn how you and your group can take part in this unique military morale program, and help spread "points of light"* (morale-boosting cards and letters) to more than a thousand places while helping yourself to a STAR SPANGLED CHRISTMAS, please read on.

Here's How to Help Spread "Points of Light" to a Thousand Places While Helping Yourself to a Star Spangled Christmas!

Please read the following guidelines *carefully, as it is important that they be closely followed.* "Mail Call!" receives and processes a *very* large amount of mail within a short time frame. Because of that factor, as well as the expense of maintaining and operating this program, it may not be possible to handle mail which does not adequately conform to the guidelines. Thank you, and have yourself a Star Spangled Christmas *while helping spread "points of light" to a thousand places!*

1. Write cheerful notes and letters NOW (use of typewriter/computer/word processor, even a copier, is OK), to send with Christmas cards. Tell about yourself, your family, home town, interests, school, job, etc. Also encourage your friends, neighbors, relatives, members of your group(s)...

EVERYONE, to write.

2. Write your name and address on each envelope (see illustration). Some units try to give recipients mail from their home state (or even home town!). Please write in your letters to the service members if you would like to hear from them. (Don't

tell us, tell them.) Everyone receiving letters will not reply; some will.

3. **"Mail Call!" is not able to handle food or gift items.** After responses have been received, you may bake cookies, make fudge, knit sweaters . . . whatever you wish!

4. **GROUPS:** Rubber band together *all the cards sent by an individual*. This will help us to spread each person's greetings as widely as possible among the 1,000+ outgoing bundles.

5. Place each card/letter in an envelope of appropriate size, tucking in the flaps. (If you make your own cards and use "glitter," please seal the flaps!). **Maximum envelope size is 6" x 9". BEST size is 4" x 7" or smaller . . . or a regular size Christmas card envelope.** (Pieces larger than 4" x 7" or so must be sorted separately.)

MAXIMUM SIZE: 6" x 9"

BETTER SIZE: 4" x 7" or so, give or take

6. Place all the mail from you or your group in **one package** to be sent to "Mail Call!" Please do not send cards separately; *minimum membership is five cards/letters* (most send 10 or more, and thousands go further to qualify for certificates/pins).

7. Christmas greetings should be sent to "Mail Call!" **as early as possible, but not later than Saturday, December 1, 1990**, to allow time for processing. (As some of the locations have requested that we get the mail to them a little earlier, *we will probably begin the sorting process as early as Thanksgiving!* Obviously, mail which is on hand when the sorting starts will have a greater opportunity to be spread more widely.) You may send your package of mail to our P.O. Box address by U.S. mail **OR** by UPS (*yes, you may even send via UPS to our P.O. Box!*). Please do not send by bus, as the terminal is many miles from us.

8. **Please DO NOT place postage stamps on the individual cards** ("Mail Call!" does not send the mail out a piece at a time, but combines your greetings with those from thousands of other members and sends out the resulting 1,000+ bundles via **PRIORITY MAIL**).

INSTEAD . . .

please enclose membership dues as indicated in the following chart. (Amounts are *per piece* for the quantities indicated.)

\$.25 each -	5 minimum-25
\$.24 each -	26-50
\$.23 each -	51-100
\$.22 each -	101-300
\$.21 each -	301-500
\$.20 each -	501-750
\$.19 each -	751-1,000
\$.18 each -	1,000 +

The membership dues cover the postage for spreading "points of light" to a thousand-plus places, the cost of the publicity program (including this printing, as an example), and all other expenses for maintaining and operating this program. As an independent, nonprofit MWR program, "Mail Call!" is **not** part of any government agency, receives no funding from the taxpayers, foundations, or business firms, and operates separately from wealthy celebrities and politicians. *Membership dues from those who voluntarily take part in "Mail Call!" constitute the sole means of continuing this program.*

Please place the membership dues in a *separate, clearly-marked envelope* and enclose just inside the top of your package before sealing, so that it can be located without an extensive search. Checks (which must be drawn on a U.S. bank, alternative: money order payable in U.S. funds) should be made payable to **"Mail Call!"** Thank you, and may God bless you!

"MAIL CALL!"

BOX 817 • CHRISTMAS, FL 32709-0817

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE FOLLOWED THE GUIDELINES

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT are awarded . . .
... to ORGANIZATIONS - CHURCHES - SCHOOLS - COLLEGES . . . ANY KIND OF GROUP sending 100 or more pieces of Christmas or Valentine mail, and
... to INDIVIDUALS/FAMILIES writing 25 or more. GROUPS (of any kind) should enclose a **legibly-printed or typed** list of individuals who wrote 25 or more each. The list should know **exactly** how the certificates are to be made out, and how many pieces of mail each person or family on the list sent. Certificates are usually mailed the following May
... and ...

PIN-ON MERIT BADGES will be awarded, in addition to the certificates, to **individuals** who write 50 or more cards/letters each. Since the badges are mailed *at the same time at the publicity materials for the following year's Christmas Mail Call* (usually by October), it is important that we receive the **home address** of each individual qualifying for a pin-on merit badge.

Please . . . exceptions should not be requested. Thanks!

As an independent, nonprofit, military MWR program, "Mail Call!" neither endorses nor seeks the endorsement of political figures, in any way, "honorary" or otherwise.



THANKSGIVING



by Mrs. Katie Roper

- T** The giving of thanks and praise to God for His blessings on us. Sometimes it takes a catastrophe or a tragedy to shake us up—make us pause and realize just how good God is to us. He has spared us these things, so we should be doubly grateful.
- H** How great God is and merciful toward us in sparing us tragedy. We hear through the news media of storms, earthquakes, hurricanes, volcanoes, high winds, and high waters that have taken place in various parts of the world—so many have lost crops, homes, loved ones and are left with nothing. We should shout with praise and thanksgiving: “Thank you, Lord, for your blessing on me.”
- A** Answers to our prayers. In most every praise and prayer service in our church, someone expresses thanksgiving to God for answered prayer.
- N** National missionary workers in Mexico. We have no other missionaries except national workers in Mexico right now. We should thank God for Free Will Baptists who began a missionary work in Mexico—especially Brother T. E. Timmons and his family who served many years on the field of Mexico and established churches and taught and trained “called out” men of God to become missionaries to their own people. Many Mexicans became Christians through his ministry.
- K** Kindling the fire of the Holy Spirit in our hearts that quickens us to work and support our missionaries who are working to feed lost souls with the Word of God and to supply their physical needs.
- S** Study the Word of God that we might know how to witness for Jesus without being ashamed.
- G** Giving of ourselves to God a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to His will, which is our reasonable service.
- I** Intercessory prayer that takes us into the Holy of Holies where Jesus awaits our petitions and presents them to God.
- V** Victory over sin, the devil, self, and temptation. He bought us and He paid for us with His own precious blood and gave us life eternal. Yes, praise God there is victory in Jesus!
- I** In everything give thanks: For friends, freedom of worship with other believers in our church; our missionaries in India, Mexico, and the Philippines; for means of transportation with ability to get around; for abundance of good food and water; for shelter, heat, and clothing; for the ability to work and make a living; for accessible medical care and nursing homes. Many more blessings that we take for granted are unknown to many. To God be the glory!
- N** Never ending mighty love of Jesus whom to know is peace that the world outside of Christ has never known. Great is His faithfulness and His mercy and forgiveness are past understanding.
- G** Guidance, comfort, and inspiration of His Holy Word through the Holy Spirit. Guidance in sharing His blessings to others who are less fortunate than us.



Katie Roper has worshiped and served at Sidney Church over five decades. She has taught Sunday School, directed the YFA, and is currently foreign missions chairperson of the Ladies Auxiliary. She has been married to Edwin Roper for sixty years. They have two children, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

TEACHING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE

by Stuart Briscoe

When I was growing up, our church was so small that my brother and I were the Sunday School. Now at the church I pastor, Elmbrook Church, Waukesha, Wisconsin, there are 2,000 kids in the Sunday School and over 500 teachers.

Whether we're talking a two-child Sunday School or one that is 1000 percent larger, we are talking about the ministry that is producing the Church of the Future. The most important human part of that ministry is the teacher.

Good Sunday School teachers love the Lord Jesus and love kids. These are the two primary qualifications. Teachers can develop skills, but people with just skills and without love are not teachers.

When I think of good teachers, I think of a couple who work with our young teens. They have a love relationship with God and with those kids.

We used to lose students between junior high and high school. They would just drop away. That is no longer true. Teachers like these have given their time to end drop out. For example, this couple started a class on Sunday morning that combines traditional Christian education with drama. Kids are more than willing to make a time-and-work commitment because it leads to genuine involvement in the church. Teens perform at schools and clubs, and in the process grow in skills and in their understanding of what it means to belong to Christ's family. Through the years, this couple, and thousands of dedicated teachers like them, have developed a tremendous network of discipleship and caring.

Thank you, Sunday School teachers, for building the Church of the Future. You planted the seed and Sunday after Sunday you watered it. When some of those seeds grow into mighty oaks, you can know for certain that before our Lord Jesus your part will not go unnoticed.



A PLACE TO FILL

by Virginia L. Davis

David fled from Saul into the land of the Philistines to Achish, king of Gath. The king gave to David the city of Ziglag to use as a place of refuge for his family, the soldiers, their families and possessions. After being rejected by the main body of Philistines because of David's former allegiance to Saul, King Achish asked that they not be included in the battle plans.

So David returned to Ziglag to find that the Amalekites had invaded the city and burned it with fire. The enemy had taken all the people hostage and carried them away captive. Every man grieved for his family and was distraught to the point of planning to stone David. But David encouraged himself in the Lord and an inquiry was made through the priest Abithar who advised the army to pursue the enemy. Six-hundred men were with David but two-hundred of those were left behind because they were so faint they could not follow into battle.

The conquest was a success and David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken away plus the spoils of the battle. Not a soul was lost! All the wives and children were spared! The soldiers who remained by the brook Besor came out to meet the company on their return from battle. However, some of those who went into battle because of the wickedness of their hearts purposed that those who had not gone into battle should not share in the spoils but would receive only their wives and children.

According to 1 Samuel 30:23, 24, David then said, "Ye shall not do so my brethren, with that which the LORD has given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand. For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike." From that day forward, it was made a statute and an ordinance for Israel.

The men that tarried by the brook had a mission in that they protected the materials and supplies that could not be carried into the conflict. Their contribution to the success of the military assignment was as great as those who went out to fight.

The enemy often tempts us with discouragement. Serving in small churches there are many ministers, deacons, Sunday School teachers, and other officers and workers who feel that they are not accomplishing all they would like to do. Let us not lose sight of the fact that every individual is important. The few are as precious to Him as the many.

Jesus' parable of the one lost sheep out of the one-hundred gives us insight into the love the Good Shepherd had for even just one of the flock. If the shepherd had not recognized value of the one lost sheep that went astray, had he not made an effort to seek and return to the fold that one, then to lose one every day for one-hundred days would have resulted in the entire flock being lost. The loss would have been devastating! In that agricultural economy, it would mean the loss of their entire livelihood since their food, clothing and trade depended on the well-being of the flock.

There is a goal for which we must continually strive and that is to make every effort to be a witness to the lost and dying world.

We may not be called to lead great crusades or to fill places of honor. We may be hampered due to the lack of education, inadequate financial support, and family obligations; and without specialized training, we would be unprepared to labor in many areas of service. Yet we need not despair for there are many places in which we can serve. While we may not be called to march at the front of the battle or to be one of the leaders, it is very important that we serve well and faithfully in our own special place. We live in a materialistic world inundated with reminders of the largest and best all around us, often tempted to judge success by size not content. If God has chosen us in His kingdom to fill a small station, then surely we must look for a reward not contingent on how many honors we receive or how great a position we fill but how well we have done the job.

The David Livingstones, the D. L. Moodys and the John Wesleys were giants in their day, yet the unsung heroes are those who plod on day after weary day, sometimes without visible rewards or audible thanks. These people are the important links in the human chain of God's eternal plan.

To go to foreign fields of service or to lead great crusades would indeed be satisfying and inspiring; however, to know that we have done our very best in our small field of labor can be just as stimulating and fulfilling. Like those faint warriors of David's army who were not permitted to go into the front of the battle, those of us who stay behind and are entrusted with the daily care of God's Kingdom must be faithful to our charge.

Virginia L. Davis is a member of Davis Church. She has taught Sunday School for many years, presently teaching the Young Adult Class. Mrs. Davis, a widow, has two children, a son and a daughter.



PASTOR'S HELPERS

PRAY—Pray for your pastor and his family. Every sincere minister can identify with the appeal of Paul, "Now I beseech you, brethren . . . that ye strive together with me in *your* prayers to God for me" (Romans 15:30). Your pastor and his family are mere human beings, just like you are. They have the same weaknesses and problems, in addition to the special difficulties associated with the public ministry. Therefore, pray for them individually and specifically every day.

SUBMIT—Acknowledge your pastor as the spiritual leader of the congregation. Put into practice the admonition of Hebrews 13:17, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief . . ." True pastors are not to act as "lords over God's heritage" nor are they to be viewed as infallible dictators. But they do "have the rule over you," and every church member should acknowledge their position and calling.

GET BUSY—Choose a task in your church and do it energetically and thoroughly. Ask the Lord to direct you. Then take to heart the words of Paul, "And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Colossians 3:23). If every able-bodied church member would do one thing well, our pastors would find great joy in their work.

BE HONEST—Fourth, be open and above-board with your pastor. If you feel that his ministry is effective, encourage him by telling him so. But if you are convinced that he is not preaching the whole counsel of God, discuss that with him too. If you know of individuals he is neglecting, tell him in a kind Christian spirit. But please don't spread discord and dissension through the church.

BE PATIENT—Finally, be patient with your pastor. He is an imperfect man working with a group of imperfect people. In fact, you may be one of his handicaps.

In conclusion, your pastor doesn't need sympathy; he needs support. You can help him by praying for him, acknowledging his leadership, taking your responsibilities seriously, and being honest with him.

—Author Unknown

NOTES AND QUOTES

(Continued from Page 32)

story of Peter walking on water (Matthew 14:22-36). As long as Peter kept his eyes on Jesus, he could walk on water! It was only when he took his eyes off the Saviour that he began to sink. In much the same way, as long as the church focuses on Christ, we can accomplish anything—lose that focus, and we too will fail.

(3) **A Proper Fellowship—the People of God.** The Book of Acts shows us the best kind of fellowship in the church: "And they continued steadfastly, in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42). When this kind of fellowship prevails, "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

(4) **A Proper Faith—the Mind of God.** When the church begins to think like Christ, and to act like Christ, He will begin to pour out blessings on His church (Philippians 2:5).

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FREEWILL



BAPTIST

DECEMBER



Happenings Throughout the Church

3

1991 Calendar

11

Children's Corner

44

Notes and Quotes

45

Prime-Time Parishioners

46

December 1990

Vol. 105

No. 12

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MEMBER HONORED



Monnie King

The members of Folkstone Church recently honored the church's oldest continuous member, Mrs. Monnie King. Ninety-three years-old, Mrs. King united with the church when she was 17. Her membership of 76 years makes her the longest living member of the church. When she joined, the congregation was worshipping in the old church which had not been organized long. She united with the church under the leadership of the first pastor, the Rev. Nick Edwards, of Goldsboro, NC.

Many devoted members of the early church are now deceased, including her husband, Chesley King, who was a faithful member and deacon for many years until his death at age 79 in 1971. Many of her family, including her mother and father, were also active in the early church. All are now deceased.

Her five children grew up in the church and were present to honor her, as were many of her nieces and nephews, relatives and friends. She is the only living aunt many of them have; and as a result, they gladly remarked about her life and what she has meant to them. Comments about her dedicated service to the church and its ministers followed. The Rev. Ronnie Parker, the present pastor at Folkstone, made

appropriate remarks and recognized other members who had served the church for many years.

Mrs. King was presented a gift from the church and a lovely dinner was enjoyed in the Fellowship Hall. This day was thoroughly enjoyed. It was a memorable and well-deserved time for Mrs. King, and she appreciated it so much.

Many lives have been touched and the influence has been felt. Her prayers and dedication to God have enriched her life and God has given her many active years and spared her that His name might be glorified.

**GOLDSBORO CHURCH
HONORS SENIOR CITIZENS**

by Johnny Skinner

First Church, Goldsboro, located at 604 East Ash Street, honored its senior citizens at the 11 a.m. worship service, November 4.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. Norman Ard, was guest speaker. Mr. Ard brought out in his message that age was nothing to be ashamed of. Even though our physical appearance may be changing to include gray hair and wrinkles, that is the normal process of life as we pass from this life into life everlasting. He offered the senior parishioners hope as they looked back on what they had accomplished both physically and spiritually. He offered hope as he reminded them of the godly heritage they left for the younger generations, and now for the life eternal they may experience one day after they pass from this life.

He encouraged the younger people to continue to work with the senior citizens of the church, as they are the backbone of the church. On behalf of the congregation, the pastor thanked the senior citizens for what they had done for the church. The senior citizens are important, and all are loved by the church. They are

First Church.

During the worship service, special music was rendered by the Senior Choir, which sang "We'll Never Grow Old."

After the service, a catered dinner was served in their honor in the fellowship hall.

CHOIR TO PRESENT MUSICAL

The sanctuary choir from First Church, Goldsboro, will present a Christmas cantata entitled, "Gloria," December 23 during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Mr. Johnny Skinner, organist/choir director of the church, has taken selections from the writings of Tom Fettke which include "Gloria," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," and "The Lord of Love Medley," and combined them into one cantata.

Selections written and arranged by David T. Clydesdale will be presented during the cantata, which include, "He Will Be Great," "No Room Today," While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks /Gloria."

The highlight of the cantata will be the finale, "The Hallelujah Chorus," from Handel's *Messiah*.

The cantata will be presented in candlelight in combination with the drama department of the church. Mrs. Sharlene Howell, pianist, will be accompanying the choir.

SENIOR ADULTS HONORED

The members of Peace Church, located in Pinetops, honored their senior citizens on Sunday, October 28, with a special day at the church.

Corsages were presented to the fifteen honorees who were present with their families. In the special worship service, their favorite hymns were sung. The youth read poems that told how much they mean to everyone at Peace Church. Candles were lit in honor of those who were unable to come to this service. The pastor, Carroll



Front row: Ann Drake, Tom Harrell, Hardy Vainwright, Betty C. Vainwright; second row: Sarah Braswell, Doretha Vainwright, Laura Mae Gay, Martina Casey, Alice Burnette; and third row: Irving Wooten, Reba Pollard (for her mother, Emily Gardner), Helen Harrell, Lester Langley, Mary Forde Langley, and Dorothy Brewere.

Bradbury, brought the message on "Heaven."

After the message, a covered-dish lunch was served in the fellowship building. Good Christian fellowship was enjoyed by all present during the lunch hour.

Each senior citizen received a book prepared just for him or her. It contained information about them, pictures, and letters from their family members and friends. They were given a "treat bag" of many useful items when the day was over.

VETERANS HONORED

Plymouth Church honored the Veterans of Foreign War and those currently active in Saudi Arabia, with a fellowship supper, November 11, at 6 p.m., followed by the evening worship service.

The veterans, the Rev. Luther Swinson, Monroe Bateman, Roy Phelps, Ronnie Comstock and Johnny Garrett, led in the Pledges of Allegiance to the American Flag, the Christian Flag and the Bible.

The congregation joined in singing, "America"; the Adult Choir sang, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"; and a quintet, the Rev. L. Swinson, M. Bateman, D.

Bateman, J. Sadler, and N. Sadler sang, "Soldiers of the Cross."

There were special prayers for the veterans and those in Saudi Arabia. The veterans shared some of their experiences during the fellowship.

Photographs were taken for the church scrapbook.

A CHURCH ON THE MOVE

by Janice Evans

It seems to be seldom that we hear good news about a church that is in unity and growing. We, of the Free Spirit Church in Wilson, would like to take this opportunity to share some good news with you, to let you know that the church does not have to take defeat. David wrote Psalm 85:6, "Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee." Our church sought God to make this verse become a reality.

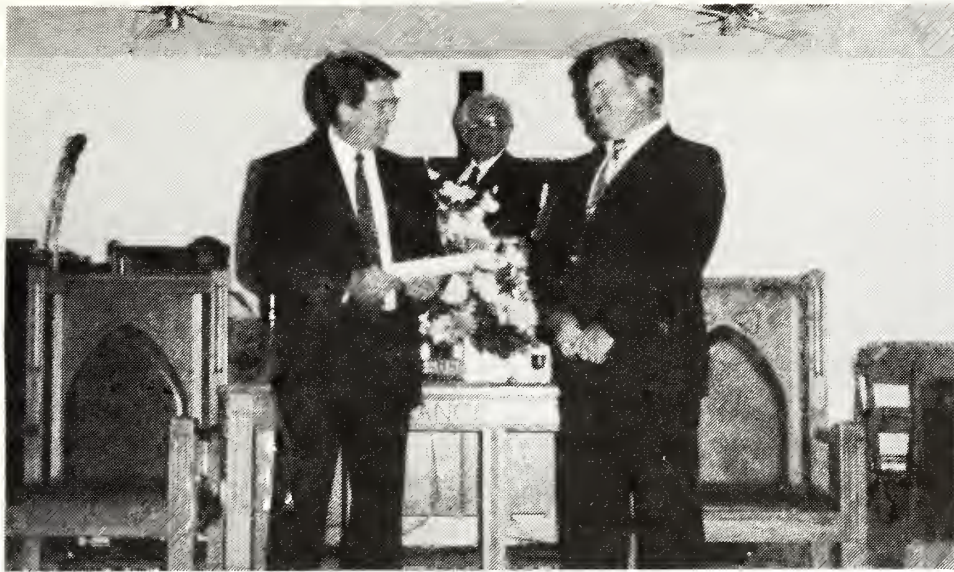
The Rev. Dale Albertson was led by God to begin this church some twelve years ago, and with the help of others along with our Home Missions Board, our church prospered. But like so many others, Satan invaded and Free Spirit had a division. Only a few of us remained. Yes, we became

discouraged and let the thoughts of defeat enter. If we could give a lesson to others who have had to deal with this, it is this: Don't spend your time and energy on self-pity and don't ever walk away and quit. But rather regroup and seek God for a new direction. Remember the same God that got you started in the beginning is still the God to give you a "Revival From Ashes" (Isaiah 61:3).

In November 1989, we were able to obtain the Rev. M. E. Cox as our pastor. There has been a complete turn-around at Free Spirit Church. We can praise the Lord today that we do not have the spirit of defeat anymore. Our members were encouraged and the church was stabilized. We have had a large number added to the church this year. New people are coming almost every Sunday. We have five of the finest church musicians anywhere with a choir that is thrilling to hear. The Word is preached and the Spirit is real in the services. Love and fellowship among the membership are wonderful. Everyone seems to come to church in a spirit of expectancy to see what God will do today.

We had our first Harvest Day October 6. It was a great success. Over 400 ate lunch with us. We had a gospel sing, an antique car show and an auction sale all on the front lawn of the church. Our Homecoming was October 7, with 102 in attendance. The Rev. Dale Albertson brought the message, with everyone enjoying the meal afterwards. Our homecoming offering was over \$4,600. One of the highlights of the day was Brother Albertson presenting the Title Deed to Harvey Evans, chairman of the Board. We are thankful to the Rev. David Charles Hansley and all the Home Missions Board for their help through the years and that Free Spirit Church is debt free. A special thanks to the "faithful few" who have stood faithfully and carried the load until the reinforcements arrived.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



We are now making plans to build our new sanctuary in the near future. We covet the prayers of all Christians everywhere on our behalf in this endeavor. We would like to leave with you the words of Jesus in Luke 21:28, "Look up and lift up your heads your redemption draweth nigh."

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. L. E. Styron wishes to announce that he is now available to pastor a church in the eastern part of North Carolina. He is also available for supply pastoral ministry. Any church desiring his services should contact him by writing to him at 1020 Broad Creek Road, New Bern, NC 28560; or by calling (919) 637-6774 after 6 p.m.

The Rev. Lester Duncan is available for either supply, pastoral, or revival ministry. Mr. Duncan can be contacted by

writing him at 213 Dewey Street, Wilson, NC 27893; or phone him at (919) 237-0659.

FIRST WESTERN UNION MEETING

The First Union of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with Trinity Church, near Clayton, December 29, 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Bobby Futrell is scheduled to preach, with the Rev. Aubrey Williamson, as the alternate. The clerk, the Rev. James Joyner, urges all member churches to be present with full delegation and usual fee.

POWHATAN PASTOR HONORED

by Barbara S. Barbour



The Rev. Don Venable



Mrs. Venable

On Sunday, September 30, the Rev. Don Venable was surprised by the congregation proclaiming it "Rev. Don Venable Day," in remembrance of his forty years in the ministry. For the occasion, the church was beautifully decorated throughout with lavender mums. The adult choir sang "Bring My Children Home" and the youth choir followed with "For Those Tears I Died."

Mr. Venable was born on October 16, 1925, in Missouri to Claude and Thelma Venable. He has one brother and one sister, both residing in Missouri.

In 1943, he married the former Rebecca Kathleen York. They have four children, Kitty of Farmville; Charlotte (Bo) Sutton of Grifton; Lois Paul of Italy; and Dennis of the home. He also has five grandchildren.

During his forty years in the ministry, Mr. Venable has pastored ten churches, Sunnyside, Maldin, MO; Black River, Broseley, MO; Walnut Grove, Fish, MO; Fagus General Baptist, Fagus, MO; First General Baptist, Truman, AK; First Free Will Baptist, Rocky Mount, NC; Wintergreen, Cove City, NC; Sandy Plain, Pink Hill, NC; Whaley's Chapel, Richland, NC; and his present church, Powhatan, at Clayton, NC.

Preacher Don's children also surprised him when they walked in to attend the service. All were present except Lois Paul and her family, who are living in Italy on a military tour.

Some of Preacher Don's favorite hymns were sung by his family, closing with their rendition of his all-time favorite, "How Great Thou Art."

Martha Jones presented and pinned him with a white carnation boutonniere. He was then presented a suit of clothing, by Sandra Peedin, and an engraved pocketwatch, by Christine Hill.

Mrs. Venable was presented and pinned with a white carnation corsage and given a yellow gold cross on a chain and a locket with pictures of Preacher Don and her inside.

Alice Cole was the mistress of ceremonies and read excerpts from the *This Is Your Life* book, which included pictures and letters from pastors and former church members.

Before the presentation, however, Jerry Stephenson delivered a personal message from the Rev. Dean Kennedy of Fayetteville, NC.

After the presentation, Barbara S. Barbour spoke briefly on how a person can waste his years, but

that Preacher Don had not done this. She then sang "Wasted Year," but changed the last line for Mr. Venable to "He called Preacher Don to a life of fruitful years."

Kitty King then presented her father with a commemorative plaque, "The Pastor's Calling."

The Smith Trio closed the service in song with "Please Tell the Children."

The congregation was then invited to a covered-dish lunch for Mr. Venable and his family in the fellowship hall.

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE/ UNION MEETING

Saturday, October 27, the Piedmont Conference/Union Meeting was held with Highland Pines Church, Hamlet, NC. During the morning service, a beautiful plaque was given to the Rev. John Furr for his twenty-eight years of faithful service as clerk of the Conference/Union Meeting.

The Conference elected Mrs. Doris Pinyan to serve as clerk of the Conference. She is pictured here presenting the Conference offering as a special gift to Walter S. Sutton, in behalf of Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc.



The Revs. Doris Pinyan and Walter Sutton



The Rev. M. E. Cox presents a gift to the Retirement Homes ministry.

The Retirement Homes ministry expresses its deep appreciation to the churches in the Piedmont Conference who continue to respond favorably in prayer and gift support to the ministry.



Pictured here is the Rev. M. E. Cox, moderator, presenting the plaque to Mr. Furr. The plaque reads as follows: "Presented to Reverend John Furr in recognition and appreciation for 28 years of faithful and dedicated service as Conference clerk." Looking on are members of the Executive Committee (left to right): J. P. Huffman, Bobby Foy, Carlee Stallard, Doris Pinyan, Ken Hardison.



Pictured here are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tucker, members of Northside Church, Asheboro, who presented a gift to Walter J. Sutton for the Retirement Homes ministry.

CAPE FEAR UNION TO MEET

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene with Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, Sampson County, December 29. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn, Congregation
 - Devotions, the Rev. Ron Deans
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, Powhatan Church
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
 - Recognition of Visitors
 - Reading of the minutes of the Last Union
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Report of Denominational Enterprises
 - Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
 - Offering and Offertory Prayer
 - Special Music, Host Church
 - Message, the Rev. Ed Miles; Alternate, the Rev. Luby Tyner
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
 - Report of Committees
 - Unfinished Business
 - Benediction and Adjournment

ORGAN AVAILABLE

The members of Rock of Zion Church, Grantsboro, have a Lowry Organ they would like to give away. Any congregation desiring more information should call Kermit Mayo at the following number: 919-745-3994.

THIRD UNION TO MEET

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Folkstone Church December 29 at 10 a.m. All churches of the Union are urged to represent by delegate, if possible. An interesting program, good fellowship, and an excellent noon meal are planned.

HICKORY GROVE ACCEPTS CHALLENGE

by Cynthia M. Smith



Pictured above are the pastor, the Rev. C. H. Overman; the Rev. Harold Jones, and Mrs. Louise Whitehurst, Auxiliary President.

We all have many things for which to be thankful. We, at Hickory Grove Church, are no different. About two years ago, our Ladies Auxiliary set a specific goal. We had heard that there was a need for schools in India and that in order to build one, it would cost \$5,000. Right away we accepted this challenge. It got to be contagious and everyone in the church has been affected by it, and responsible for helping. We raised the \$5,000 in about two years and praise God for blessing us.

Also, the AFC and Cherubs of our church raised over \$34. We are always proud of their accomplishments.

Mr. Harold Jones, executive director of the Board of Foreign Missions, attended our church in September 1990 and we were all delighted to give him the monies collected. Praise God for victories.

HOLIDAY SERVICES PLANNED

The members of Marlboro Church, Farmville, are preparing for the holiday season and invite you to join them for the following services and activities.

- December 2—Hanging of the Greens, 7 p.m.
- 16—Children's Christmas program, 7 p.m.
- 22—Live Nativity
- 23—"King Forever," Adult Choir Presentation, 11 a.m.
- 23—"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," Youth Choir Presentation, 7 p.m.
- 24—Live Nativity (until 8:55 p.m.)
- Christmas Eve service, 9 p.m.

Marlboro Church is located on Highway 264, approximately one mile west of Farmville. The Rev. W. Scott Sowers serves as pastor.



... a time to celebrate the birth of the King!



Ministers register for conference outside church.

Harmony Church, in Wilson, was the host of the Western Conference on October 18. Approximately 125 ministers and delegates attended the various sessions of the day, which began at 9.

The Conference message was presented by Craig Simmons, pastor of First Church, Wilson, and entertainment was provided by a quartet from the host church.

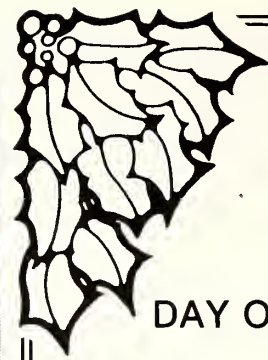
Members of the Woman's Auxiliary and the Layman's League joined forces to prepare lunch for the visitors and, according to Harold Swinson, pastor of Harmony, were able to serve them in less than 30 minutes.

Despite mid-afternoon showers, the Conference was a success and local pastors such as Joe Ingram, Unity Church, and Dale Albertson, Wilson Church for the Deaf, commented that it was perhaps the best Conference they had ever attended.

Pastor Swinson said, "This was a large undertaking for Harmony, the largest since its establishment two years ago, but it is proof of what the church can do when the members join together to work for the Lord."



*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him—Give my heart.*



DAY OF HOPE

Christmas is the one day of the year that carries real hope and promise for all mankind.

It carries the torch of brotherhood.

It is the one day in the year when most of us grow big of heart and broad of mind.

It is the single day when most of us are as kind and as thoughtful of others as we know how to be;

when most of us are as gracious and generous as we would like always to be;

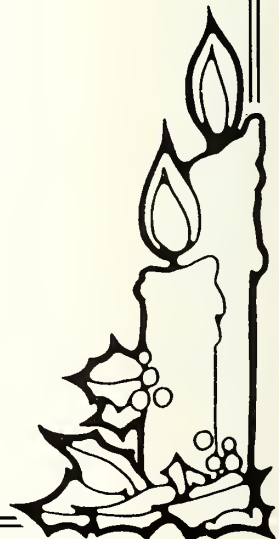
when the joy of the home is more important than the profits of the office;

when people of all races speak cheerfully to each other when they meet;

when high and low wish each other well;

and the one day when even enemies forgive and forget.

Edgar A. Guest



SPECIFIC PRAYING FOR MISSIONARIES

submitted by Fred and Linda Baker

Detailed information should be gathered relating to known ministries, missionaries, and national workers. The following plan may serve to motivate consistent intercession.

DAY 1:

Spiritual Life and Walk With God (first basic need)

Bible study

Prayer life

Being filled with the Holy Spirit

Maturity, growth and grace

Victory over Satan and the flesh

DAY 2:

Physical and Emotional Life (preventative prayer)

Climate

Disease

Safety in all types of travel

Loneliness, discouragement

Financial needs

DAY 3:

Their Family—the Whole Family

Husband/wife relationships

Children/relationship with parents

To be an example to saved/unsaved

Family at home

Relationship—of singles/married couples

DAY 4:

Ability to Communicate

Language study

Continual improvement

Cultural adaptation/understanding

DAY 5:

Ministry—What the Missionary Is Doing

Teaching

Preaching

Witnessing

Boldness, open doors

Prepared hearts (Acts 16:14, *Lydia*; 1 Corinthians 3:6, *God* gives the increase)

DAY 6:

Fellow-workers (interpersonal relationships)

Ability to get along well with other missionaries and nationals (evangelists, pastors, teachers)

DAY 7:

The Whole Country in Which Missionaries Are Working

Local and national governments

Open door for missionaries

Renewed passports and visas

Geographic outreach: other places

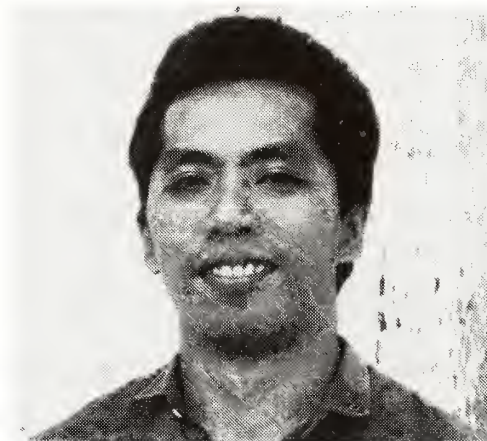
For peace for the gospel to be freely proclaimed to all

"Devote yourselves to prayer with an attitude of thanksgiving" (Colossians 4:2).

December 1990

EVANGELISTIC TRAINING

by Armando R. Manzano



Armando Manzano

The Evangelism Department personnel conducted an evangelistic crusade at the Luzviminda Free Will Baptist Church July 2-7, 1990.

The first two days were spent in training classes for witnessing, follow up, visitation and counseling. There were seven faithful brethren who gave themselves for this training. They were Mrs. Alarica de Dios, Mrs. Lucricia Macayan, Mrs. Carol Fontanilla, Mr. Artemio Elgencolin, Mrs. Florina Elgencolin, Mrs. Erlinda Nunez and Mrs. Marissa Mananzala. The trainers were Brother Elmer Garcellano, Pastor Armando R. Manzano and assisted by Sister Rosela (Phing) Rodriguez. The training featured a Four Spiritual Laws Seminar.

Praise the Lord, after training, the participants were eager to launch out into the deep as the Holy Spirit led them. They were full of courage in spite of their personal weaknesses. By the earnest desire of these brethren and through the power of the Holy Spirit, eight persons accepted Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord.

TAKEN FROM: Gotaas, D. and Steyne P. *The Church in Touch With the World*. Columbia: Columbia Biblical Seminary and Graduate School of Missions, 1987 (pages 74-76).

The second two nights were our evangelistic crusade. It was very successful. Thirty persons came forward to receive Christ as Saviour and Lord. Others were revived in their spiritual life. The church members which received training will now follow up these new converts.

Brothers and sisters, please continue to pray for them. We are trusting God through His immense power and prayer to bring more souls to Christ and to demonstrate the lifestyle of Jesus Christ in evangelistic ministry. Brethren, pray for these new converts that they will be rooted in God's Word and for us.

THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE

by Jaapal Ontong

Brother Elmer Garcellano and Sister Esther Joven were joined together in holy matrimony on June 9, 1990, before God, relatives and their friends at 9 a.m. at the Luzviminda Bible Fellowship in Luzviminda, Puerto Princesa City.

Brother Elmer serves the Lord in the Evangelism Department of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines and is in charge of field evangelism. Sister Esther is the daughter of Mr. Teodoro G. Joven and Mrs. Rosalina Joven. The Jovens are faithful members

of the Fundamental Baptist Church.

Their secondary sponsors were Pastor Armando Manzano, best man; Ruth Joven, maid of honor; Rachel B. Joven and Napoleon D. Dagaraga, to light their path; Lynn B. Joven and Ruben D. Fabrigas, to clothe them as one; Lorna C. Reynoso and Miguel D. Fabrigas, to bind them together; Jonna Magarce and Junjie Buscano, to untie and unveil them; Cris Guilan, ring bearer; Allen Jeremiah J. Rabang, Bible bearer; Jenelyn G. Helario and Ana May J. Rabang, flower girls; Pastor and Mrs. James Helario, Miss Rosela Rodriguez and Pastor Armando Manzano,

(Continued on Page 39)



BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

**N.C. STATE CONVENTION OF
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

P.O. Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513-0039

Phone (919) 746-4963

Dear Fellow Free Will Baptists,

In just a few days we will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. While we celebrate, much of the world's population still lives in complete darkness even though the light of Christ came into the world almost 2,000 years ago. Christians alone will spend more money on Christmas gifts this year than they will give for missions in many years to come. This must be heartbreaking to God. We celebrate by giving material gifts to ourselves, while 700 million Hindus, 850 million Moslems, 300 million Animist, 300 million Buddhist and one billion Chinese live in complete darkness with no hope. This, plus all the cults, "isms" and nominal Christians that live in darkness all around us, should sober our celebration.

My friends, those in darkness are lost; and if they die without Jesus Christ, they will spend eternity in Hell. Jesus came to save the lost. He wants obedience to His command to take the gospel to all the world more than He wants a material celebration of His birth.

I ask you to pray for God's will and guidance, and I believe He will lead you to give your most generous gift to Foreign Missions this Christmas. **Give the gift that sends the light to those who dwell in darkness.**

God bless you with the true celebration of Christmas as you pray and give to send the Light to all the world.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND
THE 179 WORKERS YOU SUPPORT IN MINISTRY TO THOSE IN DARKNESS.**

809 North Lee Street

Location: Free Will Baptist Headquarters

Ayden, NC 28513-0039

TILL THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS



RETIREMENT HOMES

A Caring Ministry for the Retired

HISTORY

- .. State adopted recommendation authorizing a corporation to be known as Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes in September 1974 at Kenan Memorial Auditorium, Kenansville, NC.
- .. The member conferences ratified the Convention action in their annual session later in the fall of 1974.
- .. Official operation began January 1, 1975.
- .. Chartered by the State-February 6, 1975.
- .. Tax-exempt status received from IRS in July 1975.
- .. Construction of George P. Best Apartment began July 18, 1976.
- .. Miss Bonnie Farmer was the first applicant; she was admitted and occupied one of the apartments in the George P. Best Home.

TODAY

- .. We are caring for eleven Free Will Baptist retired families.
- .. We are operating homes in Smithfield, Middlesex, Seven Springs and Ayden, NC.

SERVICES OFFERED BY RETIREMENT HOMES

- .. Community-based homes or apartments.
- .. Placement services for retired families who need supervision.
- .. Cash payments for those who continue to live at their location.

RESIDENTS' COST AND BENEFITS RECEIVED

- .. Each resident pays 30% of his or her retirement income monthly to Retirement Homes.
- .. Retirement Homes furnishes the home or apartment with all utilities, appliances, repairs and yard maintenance.

APPLICATION FORMS

- .. Free Will Baptist clergy and laity may apply.
- .. Application received from our office.

SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR OPERATION

- .. Residents 30%.
- .. Free Will Baptist churches and related organizations.

Walter J. Sutton, Executive Director
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: (919) 746-4963

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH



January 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																													
<div>DECEMBER 1990</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<div>FEBRUARY 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			1 Genesis 1-3 New Year's Day	2 Genesis 4-6	3 Genesis 7-9	4 Genesis 10-12	5 Genesis 13-15 Cape Fear Youth Rally: Art and Craft Competition, Oak Grove 7:30 p.m.
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6 Genesis 16-18	7 Genesis 19-21	8 Genesis 22-24	9 Genesis 25-27	10 Genesis 28-30	11 Genesis 31-33	12 Genesis 34-36 State Youth Convention Executive Committee, MOC																																																																													
13 Genesis 37-39	14 Genesis 40-42	15 Genesis 43-45	16 Genesis 46-48	17 Genesis 49-Exo. 1	18 Exodus 2-4 All-night Prayer Service, Marsh Swamp CDYF	19 Exodus 5-7 WA Executive Committee, MOC 10 a.m. CDYF																																																																													
20 Exodus 8-10	21 Exodus 11-13 Eastern Conference Examining Board, Conference Office, 10 a.m. Pee Dee Youth Rally, Beavertown, 7:30 p.m.	22 Exodus 14-16	23 Exodus 17-19	24 Exodus 20-22	25 Exodus 23-25	26 Exodus 26-28																																																																													
27 Exodus 29-31	28 Exodus 32-34	29 Exodus 35-37	30 Exodus 38-39	31 Exodus 40		January																																																																													

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The "Road to Excellence"
in Service to the Church and
in Christian Higher Education

Purpose:

The purpose of the College is "to establish, maintain and operate a four-year college for the Christian education of men and women"; and "to maintain an emphasis upon scholarship and Christian living in an academic community made up of persons dedicated to the practice and advancement of Christian ideals in all areas of life" (Charter).

History:

Mount Olive College was chartered by the N.C. State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists in 1951. The first classes were held at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, NC during the 1952-53 school year. In 1953 property was purchased in Mount Olive and in the fall of 1954 twenty-two enrolled in the first collegiate level courses. At the request of the State Convention in 1977, the College began working toward becoming a four-year institution. The first baccalaureate class graduated in 1986.

The College is currently engaged in a five-year \$10 million advancement program to expand its educational services, increase scholarship aid to students, and construct a Student Services Building.

Services:

The College offers programs of study leading to baccalaureate degrees in the following majors:

Biology; Business Administration (Accounting, Business Management, or Industrial Management); Church Ministries; English; Fine Arts; History; General Studies; Psychology; Recreation/Leisure Studies; Religion; and Visual Communications.

Today, the College serves over 1,000 students annually.

Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, NC 28365
Telephone
(919) 658-2502



FEBRUARY IS
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

February 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																											
<div> <div>JANUARY 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<div> <div>MARCH 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31										1 Leviticus 1-3	2 Leviticus 4-6 Cape Fear Youth Rally: Tale Competition, Robert's Grow 6 p.m.
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3 Leviticus 7-8	4 Leviticus 9-10	5 Leviticus 11-13 Foreign Missions Board, 10 a.m. Retirement Homes Board, 7 p.m.	6 Leviticus 14-15	7 Leviticus 16-18	8 Leviticus 19-21	9 Leviticus 22-23																																																																																											
10 Leviticus 24-25	11 Leviticus 26-27	12 Numbers 1-2 CFA Board, 10:30 a.m. CFA Membership Lincoln's Birthday	13 Numbers 3-4 Ash Wednesday	14 Numbers 5-6 Valentine's Day	15 Numbers 7	16 Numbers 8-9																																																																																											
17 Numbers 10-11	18 Numbers 12-13 Washington's Birthday (Observed)	19 Numbers 14-15 FWB Press Board, 1 p.m.	20 Numbers 16-18	21 Numbers 19-20	22 Numbers 21-22	23 Numbers 23-25																																																																																											
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FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Board of Foreign Missions is your ministry to the world outside the United States. We are presently working in three countries. **INDIA**—population 833,422,000; we support 82 pastors, teachers and administrators, 26 elementary schools, various programs of relief and pastor education. **PHILIPPINES**—population 61,971,000; we support 3 missionary families, 56 pastors, teachers and administrators. We have a four-year Bible College, Palawan Bible College. **MEXICO**—population 88,087,000; we support 13 pastors. These men are all engaged in pastoral and mission work. The Board is presently exploring the possibility of opening a new field. Please pray with us about this.

We have chosen a theme for the next ten years:

Pressing Toward the Year 2000
(Philippians 3:14)

**Ten years of concerted missions effort
to reach the world with the gospel**
1990-2000

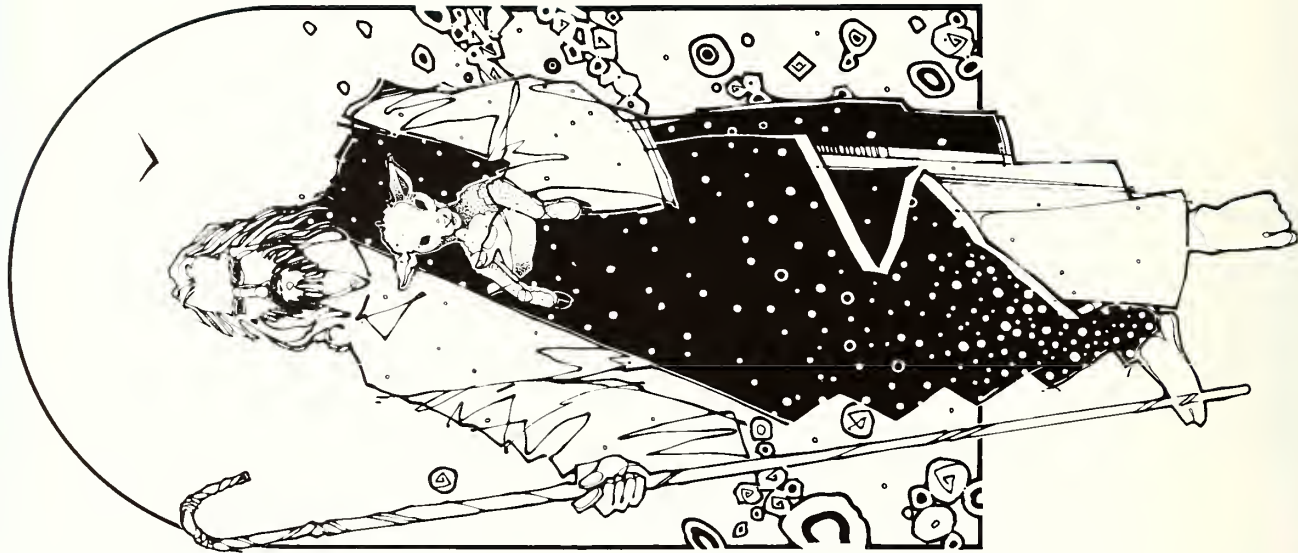
The chief aim of this emphasis will be to evangelize the lost, start new churches, open new fields and move all our work toward self-government, self-propagation and self-support. To achieve these goals, we must have the cooperation of all Free Will Baptists in the following areas:

1. **PRAYER**—We need an army of 5,000 prayer warriors to pray daily for foreign missions, world evangelization and revival.
2. **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**—To be able to carry out our mandate, we need the support of all churches and individuals.
3. **CHURCH VISITS**—From the director and missionaries. Give us an opportunity to visit your church.

We must press forward with the gospel and make a difference in our world.

Board of Foreign Missions
Harold Jones, Director-Treasurer
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: (919) 746-4963

MARCH IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH



March 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																													
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3 Deut. 5-7	4 Deut. 8-10	5 Deut. 11-13	6 Deut. 14-16	7 Deut. 17-20	8 Deut. 21-23	9 Deut. 24-27																																																																													
10 Deut. 28	11 Deut. 29-31	12 Deut. 32-34	13 Joshua 1-3	14 Joshua 4-6	15 Joshua 7-8 World Missions Conference	16 Joshua 9-10 CDYF																																																																													
17 Joshua 11-13 St. Patrick's Day	18 Joshua 14-16 Eastern Conference Examining Board, Conference Office, 10 a.m. Pee Dee Youth Rally, Cypress Creek, 7:30 p.m.	19 Joshua 17-19	20 Joshua 20-21	21 Joshua 22-24	22 Judges 1-2	23 Judges 3-5 Foreign Missions Telethon Sunday																																																																													
24 Judges 6-7 Easter Sunday	25 Judges 8-9	26 Judges 10-11	27 Judges 12-14	28 Judges 15-17	29 Judges 18-19 Good Friday	30 Judges 20-21 Union Meetings Cape Fear Union Meeting, Saint Mary's Grove																																																																													
Easter Ruth 1-4	31					March																																																																													

HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

Because Home Missions and Evangelism has accepted the challenge to touch lives for a lifetime . . .

Deaf boys and girls, men and women have two churches in which to worship,

A summer camping experience is available to those who are hearing impaired,

Migrant ministries reach transient populations with the good news of the gospel,

Fifteen H'mong worship groups are assisted,

H'mong youth are challenged during an intensive summer training camp week,

Fifteen Free Will Baptist congregations gather at mission sites to feed upon the Word of God,

Eighteen training programs for church growth and evangelism are sponsored,

Scriptures are supplied to many individuals, and seeds are planted.

As Christians, we do well to remember that all of life is a planting time. Our sowing, both good and bad, will eventually bear fruit. When we scatter the good seed with earnestness and prayer, we can expect a joyous and abundant harvest.

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:6).

The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism is committed to church planting and church growth. Our purpose is to bring glory to Jesus Christ in winning the lost.

Home Missions and Evangelism
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963



APRIL IS HOME MISSIONS MONTH

April 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																																		
	1 I Samuel 1-3	2 I Samuel 4-7	3 I Samuel 8-11	4 I Sam. 12-14:23	5 I Sam. 14:24-16 Morning Star, Cragmont	6 I Samuel 17-18 Morning Star, Cragmont Cape Fear Youth Rally, Rivalry side, 7:30 p.m.																																																																																																		
7 I Samuel 19-21 Morning Star, Cragmont	8 I Samuel 22-24	9 I Samuel 25-27	10 I Samuel 28-31	11 I Samuel 1-2	12 I Samuel 3-5	13 I Samuel 6-9 Albemarle WA Convention Center Sound Side																																																																																																		
14 I Samuel 10-12	15 I Samuel 13-14	16 I Samuel 15-16	17 I Samuel 17-18	18 I Samuel 19-20	19 I Samuel 21-22	20 I Samuel 23-24 CDYF Field Day																																																																																																		
21 I Kings 1-2:25	22 I Kings 2:26-4	23 I Kings 5-7	24 I Kings 8 Secretaries Day	25 I Kings 9-11	26 I Kings 12-13	27 I Kings 14-15																																																																																																		
28 I Kings 16-18	29 I Kings 19-20	30 I Kings 21-22		<table><tr><th colspan="7">MARCH 1991</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">MAY 1991</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr></table>			MARCH 1991							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							MAY 1991							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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CHILDREN'S HOME

Reaching Out to Today's Children for Tomorrow's World

PURPOSE

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is a community centered ministry which provides a caring residential program for abused, neglected, and abandoned children, accepting them into the Children's Home community, and striving to provide the best professional assistance available.

HISTORICAL

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home has cared for over 1,000 children since its opening almost three quarters of a century ago. The Home is licensed by the Department of Human Resources of North Carolina and is a member of the North Carolina Child Care Association and Southeastern Child Care Association.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

All cottages are operated on a family-style basis and are staffed by a team of child care workers, social workers, and a unit coordinator.

Residents attend Nash County Public Schools with on-campus tutorial program provided by certified teachers.

Psychiatric services are offered on campus to all residents upon request by legal guardian.

- Permanency Planning
- Family Planning
- Supplemental Parenting
- Adolescent Development
- Preparation for Independent Living

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Scouting Programs
- Senior Citizens Use of Gymnasium
- Family Enrichment Seminars
- Family Counseling
- Audio/Visual Tape Library

Free Will Baptist Children's Home
P.O. Box 249
Middlesex, NC 27557
(919) 235-2161

MAY IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



May 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
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5 II Kings 11-13	6 II Kings 14-15	14 I Chron. 8-10	15 I Chron. 11-13	16 I Chron. 14-16	17 I Chron. 17-20 State Youth Convention, MOC	18 I Chron. 21-23 State Youth Convention, MOC Armed Forces Day																																																																																				
12 I Chron. 3-5 Mother's Day	13 I Chron. 6-7	21 II Chron. 1-3 FWB Press Board, 1 p.m.	22 II Chron. 4-6	23 II Chron. 7-9 First children entered FWB Children's Home	24 II Chron. 10-13	25 II Chron. 14-17																																																																																				
19 I Chron. 24-26 State Youth Convention, MOC Children's Home Day	20 I Chron. 27-29 Eastern Conference Examining Board, Conference Office, 10 a.m.	28 II Chron. 25-27	29 II Chron. 28-30	30 II Chron. 31-33	31 II Chron. 34-36	4 II Kings 9-10 State Youth Convention Bible Bowl Run-off Cape Fear Youth Rally, Pleasant Grove, 7:30 p.m.																																																																																				
26 II Chron. 18-20	27 II Chron. 21-24 Memorial Day					May																																																																																				

Cragmont Ministry

HISTORY

Cragmont was established in 1945 by the united efforts of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. The property formerly housed a private sanatorium known as Cragmont Sanatorium. The property consists of 112 acres on the slopes of Mount Allen just north of Black Mountain, North Carolina on North Fork Road. The initial purchase price of \$10,000 was raised and paid off within six months after the property was deemed suitable for camping and retreats.

From its beginning, conferences, camps, and retreats have been planned for the spring, summer, and fall, with a good interest in skiing during the winter. In all conferences, plans are made for helpful instruction, inspiration, and wholesome recreation.

Cragmont has been described as our "Summer Youth Camp." Certainly it is, but it is so much more. From its inception, it was designed to accommodate all our people. Today, there are six youth weeks, two woman's auxiliary weeks, plus two weekends; and one week for Original Free Will Baptist ministers. The use of Cragmont by church groups for spring and fall retreats is increasing in popularity. Vacationers are invited to use Cragmont for overnight lodging, as space is available.

PLANS

Cragmont will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1995. Cragmont's future is only as bright as we make it. Your support of gifts, prayers, and presence are needed to insure growth in the future.

Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
1233 North Fork Road
Black Mountain, NC 28711
Phone: (704) 669-7677



JUNE IS CRAGMONT MONTH

June 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div> <div>MAY 1991</div> <div> <div>S</div> <div>M</div> <div>T</div> <div>W</div> <div>T</div> <div>F</div> <div>S</div> </div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> <div>13</div> <div>14</div> <div>15</div> <div>16</div> <div>17</div> <div>18</div> <div>19</div> <div>20</div> <div>21</div> <div>22</div> <div>23</div> <div>24</div> <div>25</div> <div>26</div> <div>27</div> <div>28</div> <div>29</div> <div>30</div> <div>31</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>JULY 1991</div> <div> <div>S</div> <div>M</div> <div>T</div> <div>W</div> <div>T</div> <div>F</div> <div>S</div> </div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> <div>13</div> <div>14</div> <div>15</div> <div>16</div> <div>17</div> <div>18</div> <div>19</div> <div>20</div> <div>21</div> <div>22</div> <div>23</div> <div>24</div> <div>25</div> <div>26</div> <div>27</div> <div>28</div> <div>29</div> <div>30</div> <div>31</div> </div> </div>					1 Ezra 1-2 Cape Fear Youth Rally, S Mary's Grove, 7:30 p.m. Layman's League Spiritual Retreat
2 Ezra 3-5	3 Ezra 6-7	4 Ezra 8-9	5 Ezra 10	6 Neh. 1-3	7 Neh. 4-6	8 Neh. 7-8
9 Neh. 9-10	10 Neh. 11-12 WA Conference, Cragmont	11 Neh. 13 WA Conference, Cragmont	12 Esther 1-3 WA Conference, Cragmont	13 Esther 4-7 WA Conference, Cragmont	14 Esther 8-10 WA Conference, Cragmont Flag Day	15 Job 1-4 WA Conference, Cragmont
16 Job 5-8 Father's Day	17 Job 9-12 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Pee Dee Youth Rally, Oak Grove, 7:30 p.m.	18 Job 13-16 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont	19 Job 17-20 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont	20 Job 21-24 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont	21 Job 25-29	22 Job 30-33 State WA Executive Committee MOC, 10 a.m.
23 Job 34-37	24 Job 38-40 Christian Cadet, Cragmont	25 Job 41-42 Christian Cadet, Cragmont	26 Psalms 1-9 Christian Cadet, Cragmont	27 Psalms 10-17 Christian Cadet, Cragmont	28 Psalms 18-22 Christian Cadet, Cragmont	29 Psalms 23-30 Christian Cadet, Cragmont Union Meetings Cape Fear Union Meeting, Sa Paul
Psalms 31-35						June

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Sunday School Board (formerly known as the "Sunday School Convention") exists to serve our Sunday Schools. It offers the following:

- ... over fifty training workshops
- ... three certification training programs
- ... the services of a Field Secretary
- ... annual training institute (1st Sunday in March)
- ... quality resources on the Sunday School
- ... Teachers of the Year Awards
- ... Superintendent of the Year Awards
- ... and much more . . .

Let us help you help your Sunday School! Write the Ayden Headquarters for more information or to schedule training events in your church.

Sunday School Board
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone (919) 746-4963



JULY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

July 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																											
	1 Psalms 36-39 YFA Week, Cragmont	2 Psalms 40-45 YFA Week, Cragmont	3 Psalms 46-51 YFA Week, Cragmont	4 Psalms 52-59 YFA Week, Cragmont Independence Day	5 Psalms 60-66 YFA Week, Cragmont	6 Psalms 67-71 YFA Week, Cragmont																																																																																											
7 Psalms 72-77	8 Psalms 78-80 AFC Week, Cragmont	9 Psalms 81-87 AFC Week, Cragmont	10 Psalms 88-91 AFC Week, Cragmont	11 Psalms 92-100 AFC Week, Cragmont	12 Psalms 101-105 AFC Week, Cragmont	13 Psalms 106-107 AFC Week, Cragmont																																																																																											
14 Psalms 108-118	15 Psalms 119 General Youth, Cragmont	16 Psalms 120-131 General Youth, Cragmont	17 Psalms 132-138 General Youth, Cragmont	18 Psalms 139-143 General Youth, Cragmont	19 Psalms 144-150 General Youth, Cragmont	20 Proverbs 1-3 General Youth, Cragmont																																																																																											
21 Proverbs 4-7	22 Proverbs 8-11 General Youth I, Cragmont Eastern Conference Examining Board, Conference Office, 10 a.m.	23 Proverbs 12-15 General Youth I, Cragmont	24 Proverbs 16-19 General Youth I, Cragmont	25 Proverbs 20-22 General Youth I, Cragmont	26 Proverbs 23-26 General Youth I, Cragmont	27 Proverbs 27-31 General Youth I, Cragmont																																																																																											
28 Eccles. 1-4	29 Eccles. 5-8 Young People's Bible, Cragmont	30 Eccles. 9-12 Young People's Bible, Cragmont	31 Song of Sol. 1-8 Young People's Bible, Cragmont	<table><tr><th colspan="7">JUNE 1991</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr><tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr><tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="7">AUGUST 1991</th></tr><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table>			JUNE 1991							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							AUGUST 1991							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

YOUR CONVENTION—ITS OUTREACH

The Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has a mission to fulfill. We are not here by chance. We exist because God has a mission for us to fulfill!

The history of our Convention has been one of change and progress. Our ministries have expanded in recent years to encompass all facets of human needs. From that of the printed page to child care, from home and foreign missions to the support of our minister's retirement, from the education of our youth in college and camp to financial aid for our churches, from the training of Sunday School teachers to the teaching of the word to all ages—WE ARE MINISTERING.

Our outreach is limited only by our limited vision. Just think of the lives that Free Will Baptists are influencing through these ministries! Then there are other boards and commissions of our Convention relating to scouting, and chaplaincy, student fellowships, historical information, and the work of our laymen. All of these are seeking to fulfill God's plan—to minister.

Please pray for each of our ministries and programs and remember them in your giving. They cannot fulfill His plan without you!

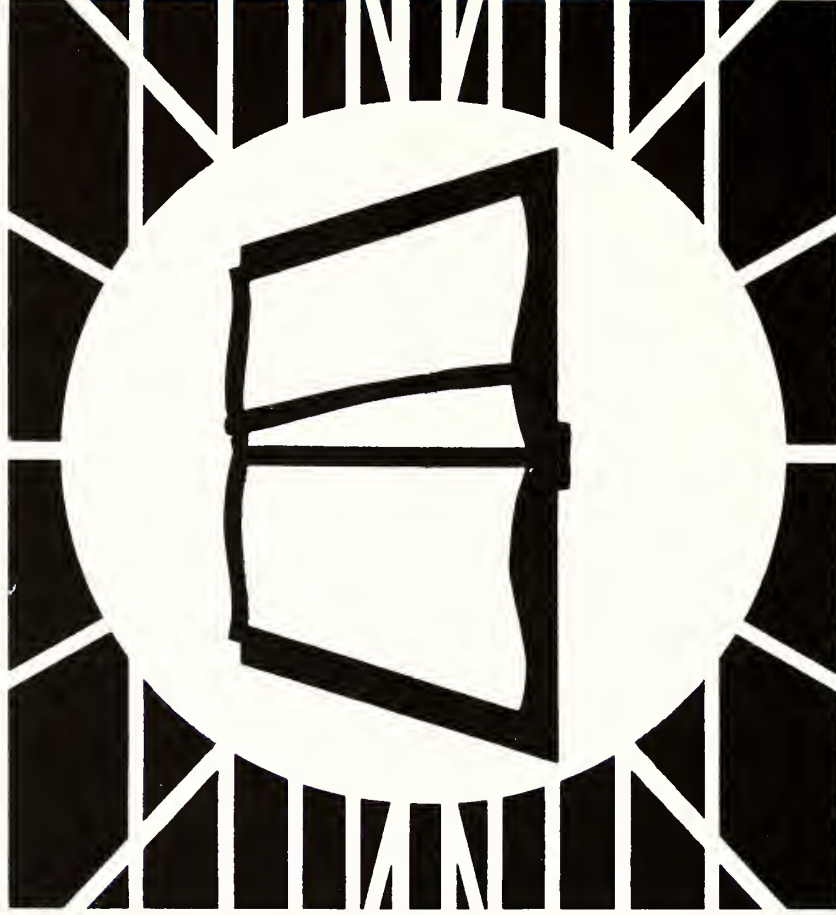
HEADQUARTERS

BOX 39

AYDEN, NC 28513

(919) 746-4963

AUGUST IS
CONVENTION PROMOTION MONTH



HEAR THE WORD
OF THE LORD

August 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																						
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<div>11 Isaiah 52-57</div>	<div>12 Isaiah 58-63</div>	<div>13 Isaiah 64-66</div>	<div>14 Jer. 1-3</div>	<div>15 Jer. 4-6</div>	<div>16 Jer. 7-10</div>	<div>17 Jer. 11-14</div>																																																																																						
<div>18 Jer. 15-18</div>	<div>19 Jer. 19-22</div>	<div>20 Jer. 23-25 FWB Press Board, 1 p.m.</div>	<div>21 Jer. 26-28</div>	<div>22 Jer. 29-31</div>	<div>23 Jer. 32-33</div>	<div>24 Jer. 34-36 State Youth Convention Execu- tive Committee, MOC</div>																																																																																						
<div>25 Jer. 37-40</div>	<div>26 Jer. 41-44</div>	<div>27 Jer. 45-48</div>	<div>28 Jer. 49-50</div>	<div>29 Jer. 51-52</div>	<div>30 Lam. 1-2</div>	<div>31 Lam. 3-5</div>																																																																																						
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FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS FOUNDATION

The work of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation began with the passing of a simple resolution by the General Conference of Free Will Baptists in North Carolina on November 5, 1873. Although there were those who advocated the "publishing of a church organ" prior to this time, no step was taken until the 1873 Conference which met with Union Grove Church, Wayne County. The question of such a publication was raised again that day, and after some discussion, Mr. E. R. Ellis decided he would undertake the task. He was authorized "to draw on the treasurer for a sufficient amount to pay for printing—a prospectus for a newspaper." So was the beginning of *The Free Will Baptist*.

Since that time, the Foundation has been charged with the responsibility of writing, editing, publishing and distributing educational literature. Materials for Sunday School, auxiliary and youth meetings are published on a regular basis. In addition to the scheduled publications, the Foundation also publishes tracts, pamphlets and books when such are needed.

The Foundation operates four bookstores, one in each of the following locations: Ayden, New Bern, Kinston and Wilson. These stores serve as a source for "everything in religious merchandise."

The printing experience and capabilities of the Foundation make commercial job work another area of service. Quality work is offered at reasonable prices by capable craftsmen.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation stands today as a "symbol of dedicated labor and Christian service." Dedicated to serving Christ in every area, the Foundation endeavors to promote unity for a singular cause. This it does by spreading the gospel, the story of God's love, through the printed page.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
811 North Lee Street
Box 159

Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-6128

FAX No. (919) 746-9248



SEPTEMBER IS HOME MISSIONS MONTH

September 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																													
1 Ezek. 1-4	2 Ezek. 5-9 Labor Day	3 Ezek. 10-13 FWB Press Membership Meeting	4 Ezek. 14-16	5 Ezek. 17-19	6 Ezek. 20-21	7 Ezek. 22-24 Cape Fear Youth Rally, Salisbury Pauli, 7:30 p.m.																																																																													
8 Ezek. 25-28 Grandparent's Day	9 Ezek. 29-32	10 Ezek. 33-36 Night of Evangelism, MOC, 7:30 p.m.	11 Ezek. 37-39 State Convention, MOC Missions Rally, 7:30 p.m.	12 Ezek. 40-42 State Convention, MOC	13 Ezek. 43-45	14 Ezek. 46-48																																																																													
15 Daniel 1-3	16 Daniel 4-6 Eastern Conference Examining Board, Conference Office, 10 a.m.	17 Daniel 7-9	18 Daniel 10-12	19 Hosea 1-6	20 Hosea 7-14	21 Joel 1-3 CDYF																																																																													
22 Amos 1-5	23 Amos 6-9; Oba. 1	24 Jonah 1-4	25 Micah 1-7	26 Neh. 1-3; Hab. 1-3	27 Zeph. 1-3; Hag. 1-2	28 Zech. 1-7 Union Meeting Cape Fear Union Meeting, Shad Grove																																																																													
29 Zech. 8-14	30 Malachi 1-4																																																																																		
<div> <div>AUGUST 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>OCTOBER 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			September
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MINISTER'S PROGRAM

The Free Will Baptist Minister's Program was originally named the Board of Superannuation and it was established by the State Convention "to provide for our aged, retired and infirm ministers in some form of a superannuation program; also seek to offer to our active ministers some program whereby they may help to provide for their future security and retirement."

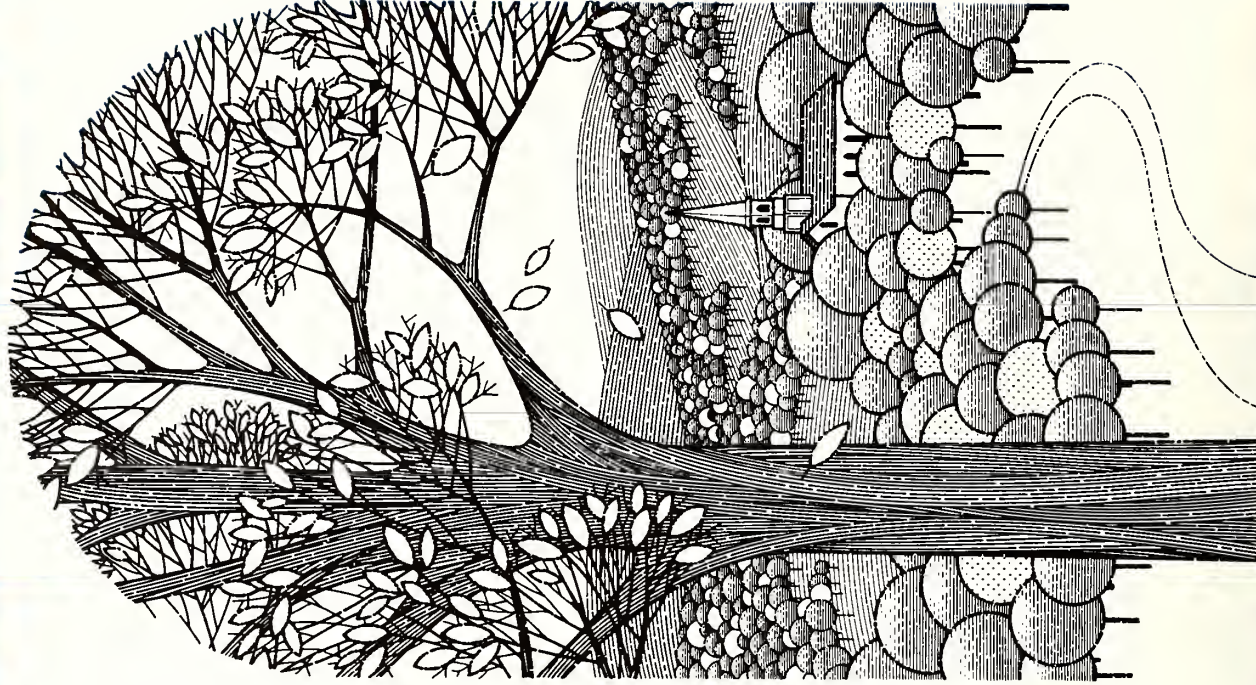
Future security is the result of planning, preparation and execution. The Minister's Program serves the ministers of our denomination by helping them plan for the financial contingencies that may arise during their life. The minister may benefit by attending seminars or participating in the retirement program or using the post graduate loan plan to advance his education. Whatever program a minister participates in the church is the real beneficiary because a minister is much more effective when he is not burdened by present or future financial concerns.

This is your program and suggestions are always welcome. Contact the Program at the address below.

The Free Will Baptist Minister's Program
FWB State Convention Headquarters
Box 39

Ayden, NC 28513

OCTOBER IS
MINISTER'S PROGRAM MONTH



October 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																													
<div>SEPTEMBER 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						<div>NOVEMBER 1991</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1 Matthew 1-4	2 Matthew 4-6	3 Matthew 7-9	4 Matthew 10-11	5 Matthew 12 Cape Fear Youth Rally, Shady Grove, 7:30 p.m. Pee Dee Youth Field Day, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon Layman's League Eagles Nest Gospel Sing
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6 Matthew 13-14 World Communion Sunday	7 Matthew 15-17	8 Matthew 18-20	9 Matthew 21-22 Albemarle Conference	10 Matthew 23-24	11 Matthew 25-26 Cragmont Club Weekend	12 Matthew 27-28 Albemarle WA Convention																																																																													
13 Mark 1-3	14 Mark 4-5 Fall Limited Edition, Cragmont Columbus Day (Observed)	15 Mark 6-7 Fall Limited Edition, Cragmont	16 Mark 8-9 Fall Limited Edition, Cragmont Boss' Day	17 Mark 10-11 Fall Limited Edition, Cragmont	18 Mark 12-13 Cragmont Club Weekend I	19 Mark 14-16 Cragmont Club Weekend I																																																																													
20 Luke 1 Cragmont Club Weekend I	21 Luke 2-3	22 Luke 4-5	23 Luke 6-7 Eastern Conference, Davis	24 Luke 8-9 Eastern Conference, Davis	25 Luke 10-11 Cragmont Club Weekend II	26 Luke 12-13 Cragmont Club Weekend II																																																																													
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CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION

In 1990, the Church Finance Association began its sixth decade of service to the congregations and institutions of the Original Free Will Baptist Church of North Carolina. In the past fifty years, the Association has been able to assist many of our institutions to expand and many of our churches to grow. We have seen our loans increase from \$5,130.60 in 1940 to \$1,601,651.89 at the end of 1989.

In the decade ahead there is much more to be done, our denomination needs to grow and some of our churches will need assistance in funding a variety of expansion programs. If our Association is to offer that needed assistance, we will need your help. You can help:

1. By purchasing memberships in the Association;
2. By making a deposit in the Association;
3. By making a tax deductible donation;
4. By establishing an endowment for our denominational ministries;
5. By praying for our work and those involved in directing it.

Please write or call for additional information.

Walter Reynolds
President

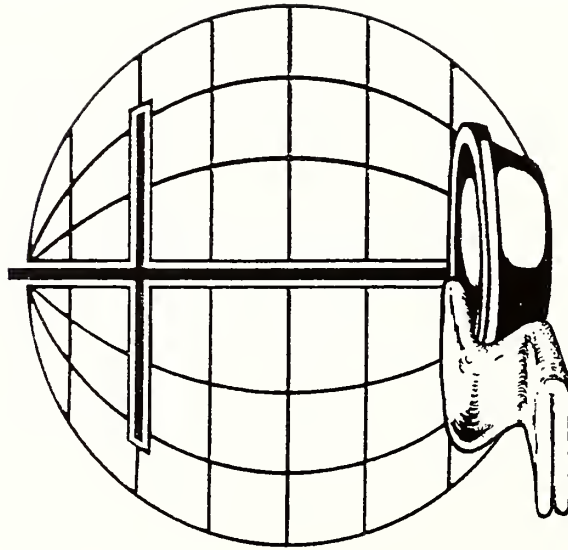
Church Finance Association
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
Phone: (919) 746-4963



NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

NORTH CAROLINA
STATE CONVENTION OF
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

MINISTRIES



Headquarters
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-4963

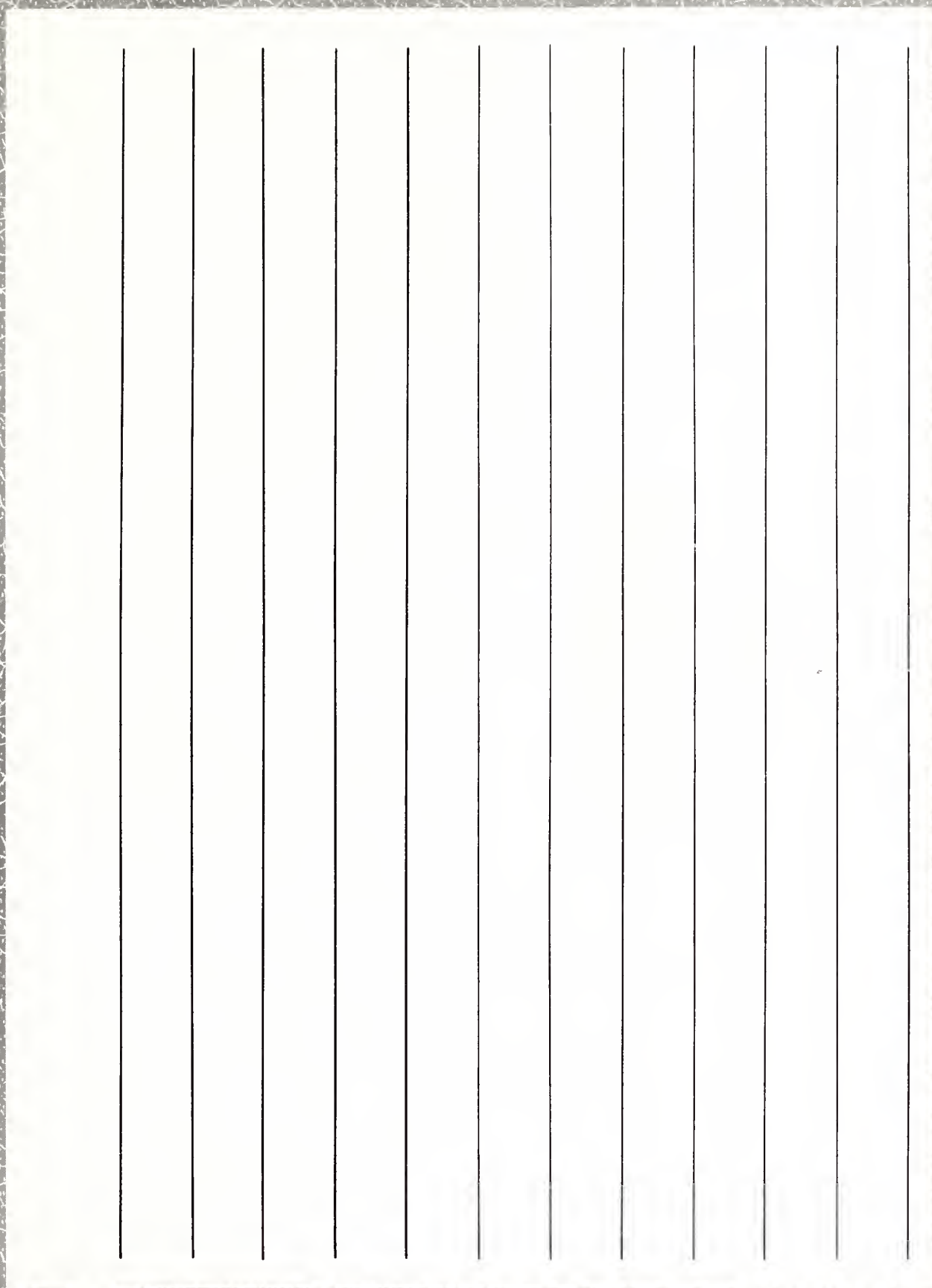


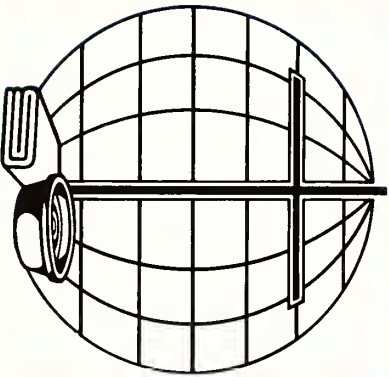
DECEMBER IS
FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

December 1991

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Galatians 1-3 Cornerstone, Cragmont	2 Galatians 4-6	3 Ephesians 1-3	4 Ephesians 4-6	5 Philippians 1-4	6 Colossians 1-4 Christmas Limited Edition, Cragmont	7 I Thess. 1-5 Cape Fear Youth Rally, Stevens Chapel, 7:30 p.m. Christmas Limited Edition, Cragmont
8 II Thess. 1-3 Christmas Limited Edition, Cragmont	9 I Timothy 1-6	10 II Timothy 1-4	11 Tit. 1-3; Phil. 1	12 Hebrews 1-4	13 Hebrews 4-7	14 Hebrews 8-10
15 Hebrews 11-13	16 James 1-5	17 I Peter 1-2	18 I Peter 3-5	19 II Peter 1-3	20 I John 1-3	21 I John 4-5
22 II III John; Jude	23 Rev. 1-2	24 Rev. 3-5	25 Rev. 6-8 Christmas	26 Rev. 9-11	27 Rev. 12-13	28 Rev. 14-16 Union Meetings Cape Fear Union Meeting, St. Mary's Grove
29 Rev. 17-18	30 Rev. 19-20	31 Rev. 21-22		<div>NOVEMBER 1991</div> <div>SMTWTFSS</div> <div>3456789101112131415161718192021222324252627282930</div>	<div>JANUARY 1992</div> <div>SMTWTFSS</div> <div>5678910111213141516171819202122232425262728293031</div>	December

DON'T FORGET—





Free Will Baptist Press
Box 159
Ayden, NC 28513

singers; Mr. Edito Madduma and Marilou Joven, ushers.

Their principal sponsors were the Rev. Willem van der Plas, Kagawad Samuel Umandap, Vice Governor Arturo Ventura, Diosdado Guian, Pastor Guaico, Captain Alejandro Flor, Mr. Vicente Simbajon, the Rev. Ariston Pilapil, Mrs. Lydia van der Plas, Mrs. Alma Escamella, Mrs. Nenitha Maghanay, Dra. Editha C. Miguel, Mrs. Leonides Buncag, Mrs. Francisca Batongbakal, Mrs. Edna Ontong, and their officiating minister, the Rev. Agustin Tablazon.

After the wedding ceremony, a reception was held at the bride's residence in Luzviminda. More than two hundred friends and relatives enjoyed the meal that was served.

Please pray that God will bless and use this new couple in His vineyard for His glory.

THE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Over the years, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home has noted the need to establish endowments. And we have worked in this area to some degree, but we have not reached our goals. One of the next steps for our ministry is to establish an endowment base that will ensure that we will meet the needs of children and families in the 21st century.

During their May meeting, the Board of Directors adopted an endowment plan (through life insurance) to be presented to individuals and families. This plan allows good people to do good things for children who are in need.

You may take a life insurance policy out on yourself and it will be paid up in one to five years. Your contribution is fully tax deductible. There are no insurance forms to fill out and no personal or medical questions are asked.

This program gives you the opportunity to design the gift to fit your financial situation, which will result in a sizeable perpetual

endowment. This will help to ensure a financial foundation for your child care ministry.

During the August meeting, the Board of Directors selected the name of "The Heritage Society" to identify these distinct individuals. You may ask why the name of "The Heritage Society" for gifts that our ministry will receive in the future. It is simply this: When we receive these endowments in the future, it will be because of the heritage of those making the gift possible.

This program is already successful. Our endowment base is growing and because of your concern our future looks bright. Over the next ten years it is essential that we reach a goal of five million dollars in endowments.

For more information about The Heritage Society, contact Bobby R. Taylor, executive director; or Jeff Daughtry, director of Church and Public Relations. Call 919-235-2161.

CHILDREN ATTEND STATE BALL GAME

by Denise Gordon

Excitement built as the day for the North Carolina State University and Appalachian University football game approached. Finally, after what seemed like endless waiting, the big day arrived. The children bounced out of their beds in a hustle to prepare for this pleasurable event.

The outing began with a tailgate lunch, a grand experience for all. Everyone then proceeded to the stadium to select the seat of his choice. Young men made a dash up front in hopes of catching a football, or perhaps to catch a glimmering glimpse of a pretty cheerleader. The young ladies chose seats further back to take in all the action.

We witnessed an awesome game with North Carolina State leading all the way. The final score was 41-0.

The children wish to thank Mrs. Kaye Ward of Johnston Union

Church who was instrumental in getting the tickets and everyone else from North Carolina State University who made this day possible.

DEANYE OGLESBY MORRIS ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED AT CHILDREN'S HOME



Mrs. Deanye Oglesby Morris

Mrs. Deanye Oglesby Morris, of Route 2, Fremont, was recently honored by her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George Rand Holland, with the establishment of The Deanye Oglesby Morris Endowment at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, in Middlesex, North Carolina.

The daughter of the late John and Minnie Oglesby, Mrs. Deanye Oglesby Morris lived her first eighteen years in Bridgeton. She accepted Christ and served in the Bridgeton Church until eighteen, when she was asked to teach at the Free Will Baptist Orphanage. She began in September 1925, teaching the children, helping some with piano and often cutting the girls' hair.

Four years later, she was asked to train a singing class using some of the boys and girls. She carried them to churches in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama on a nine-month tour to raise funds for the orphanage, returning each summer to train another group. Numerous

(Turn the Page)

are the stories Mrs. Deanye can tell about how at age 21 she took an old car full of children, with very little money, many unpaved roads, ferries to cross, unsure destinations, and ventured out to raise funds for the Children's Home. Many are the friends that Mrs. Deanye has made in her travels with the Singing Class.

It was on one of her trips to Union Grove Church (Wayne County) that she made a very dear and lasting friend, Mr. Bagley Morris. She resigned from the Orphanage in December 1934, after nine years of service, to marry Mr. Morris and move to the Union Grove Community. She immediately became active in the local church and has served faithfully in all capacities. In her earlier years, she also held offices in the district and state Woman's Auxiliary. She was instrumental in organizing Vacation Bible Schools in many Free Will Baptist churches and the first Youth For Christ Rallies originated at Union Grove Church under her leadership.

Mrs. Deanye has continued to serve her Lord faithfully through her 83 years. With youth and missions being dear to her heart, she still serves as Chairman of the Missions Club at Union Grove Church and teaches private piano lessons in her home. She says, "I love having the young people come in and out of my home and teaching them to play for the Lord."

CHARTER LIBRARY PATRONS TO BE HONORED AT MOC: 50,000th VOLUME ADDED TO LIBRARY COLLECTION

Mount Olive College's Charter Library Patrons will be recognized and the 50,000th volume will be dedicated on Sunday, December 9, 1990, in Moye Library. The celebration will begin at 2:30 p.m., with a reception following. The historic event is open to the public, and all friends of the College are invited to attend.



MOC Librarian Gary Barefoot, center, holds the historic 50,000th addition to the College's library collection. The volume, a rare book dating back to 1686, will be officially dedicated and Charter Library Patrons will be recognized on December 9, 1990. With Barefoot are Annie Albertson, technical assistant, left, and Pam Wood, assistant librarian, right (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

The book, *Fleta Minor: The Laws of Art and Nature, in Knowing, Judging, Assaying, Fining, Refining and Inlarging the Bodies Confin'd Metals . . .*, second edition, London: Stephen Bateman, 1686, was written by Sir John Petrus. The volume is a gift of Emmette Wrenn of Oxford, North Carolina, and his family. Wrenn attended Mount Olive College in 1957-58.

Charter Library Patrons are those who have made a commitment of at least \$1,000 over a four-year period. Many patrons have made more than one pledge. The program was initiated in 1986 to assure the development of the library for senior college status.

Because of patrons and others who made later pledges, the College has moved from a library of some 38,000 volumes to 50,000 in the last four years. Additional periodical subscriptions, microfilm backfiles, and computer equipment have also been added.

As MOC Librarian Gary Barefoot notes, "A goal has been achieved; however, we must continue the development of the

library. We still welcome additional patrons and count on our proven friends to help us move steadily toward our next goal of 100,000 volumes."

Following the library celebration, Sunday's performance of Handel's "Messiah" is scheduled. The performance will be held at 4 p.m., First Baptist Church, 300 Chestnut Street, Mount Olive. Presented annually by Mount Olive College's Department of Fine Arts, the chorus is accompanied by a chamber orchestra. Carolyn M. Knox, MOC professor of Music, is the conductor.

CONDUCTING CLASS OFFERED AT MOC THIS SPRING

Mount Olive College is offering a conducting class this spring. The class will meet at the downtown campus, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30-1:50 p.m., and carries two hours of college credit. Cost for the class is \$190.

"The class is designed to help church musicians sharpen their skills," said Carolyn Knox, MOC professor of Music and the instructor for the course. "It will

help enhance and build existing programs for church and children's choirs."

Open to all ages and skill levels, the class will teach basic conducting technique and music reading skills.

Spring semester will begin with registration on Wednesday, January 9, 1991, with classes beginning on Thursday, January 10.

For further information about the class, call Mrs. Knox or the Registrar's Office at (919) 658-2502; or write Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

PLANNING WORKSHOP AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Dr. Ferdinand A. Hilenski, a senior consultant with Quigley & Associates of Houston, led an intensive two-day strategic planning workshop for Mount Olive College's institutional leaders. The workshop addressed the College's future academic and institutional goals.

During the workshop, Dr. Hilenski examined "five generations" of planning. The first began with plans being conceived and understood only by the chief operating officer and then moved to the fifth—a process that allowed for collective vision and strong participation of the "stakeholders" involved.

Workshop participants worked in small groups, discussing the meaning of values, mission, goals, strategies, tactics, and accountability in an institution. The groups then came together to explore ways that collective vision and participation could help Mount Olive College plan its future.

Funding for the workshop was provided by the Wachovia Endowment for Excellence at Mount Olive College.



Dr. Ferdinand A. Hilenski of Quigley & Associates, right, speaks with some of the participants of MOC's strategic planning workshop. From left, are, Dr. Barbara R. Kornegay, vice president for Planning; Dorothy Whitley, dean of Instruction; Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president; and Hilenski (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

REGISTRATION FOR MOC SPRING SEMESTER

Registration for day classes at Mount Olive College will take place at 8:30 a.m. in the Henderson Building, Wednesday, January 9. Classes will begin Thursday, January 10.

The evening program will begin on Monday, January 14, and continue through Thursday, January 17, at 6:30 a.m. Evening students may register in the Henderson Building the first night of classes.

Students may register for all classes through Thursday, January 24.

New classes being offered this spring include Microcomputer Applications in Business, In-

termediate Business Program, Yearbook Production, Advanced Speech Communications, Literary Expression of American Thought, Hispanic Literature and Culture in Contemporary Cinema (taught in English and Spanish, as needed), Major Spanish American Writers, Conducting, Intermediate Aerobics, and Therapeutic Recreation Strategies.

Mount Olive College offers bachelor of arts, bachelor of science and bachelor of applied science degrees, and associate of arts and associate of science degrees.

For more information on both daytime classes and the evening program, call or write the Registrar's Office at (919) 658-2502, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

COMING EVENTS AT MOC

(All events free,
unless otherwise noted)

Tuesday, December 4, "Messiah," 8 p.m., MOC Department of Fine Arts and visiting chamber orchestra, First Baptist Church, Mount Olive

Wednesday, December 5, North Carolina Symphony: Holiday Pops Concert, 8 p.m., College Hall (tickets required, contact Dr. Barbara Kornegay, MOC vice president for Planning, 919-658-2502)

Sunday, December 9, Library Celebration, reception and official presentation of 50,000th volume, 2:30 p.m., Moe Library

Sunday, December 9, "Messiah," 4 p.m., MOC Department of Fine Arts and visiting chamber orchestra, First Baptist Church, Mount Olive

Thursday, February 7, Pianist William Chapman Nyaho, visiting artist at James Sprunt Community College, 8 p.m., Downtown Campus

Saturday, February 16, The Tactical Air Command Jazz Ensemble in Concert, 7:30 p.m., College Hall (tickets are free and may be obtained by contacting the MOC Advancement Office, 919-658-2502)

For more information, contact Patti O'Donoghue, MOC director of Public Information, at (919) 658-2502.

sign up to Ski Wolf Laurel

The Cragmont staff is happy to serve you in making plans for your group to enjoy a day of skiing at Wolf Laurel Ski Resort, which is approximately a one hour drive from Cragmont.

Please keep this sheet and pass on the information to all who plan to ski.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO YOUR GROUP

DAY—9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Holidays)

NIGHT—6 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Holidays)

If your group should want to twilight ski (1 p.m. to 10 p.m.), you must buy individual tickets at the ski resort. A group twilight ski package is not available.

COSTS

FOOD AND LODGING

\$25 (includes 2 nights and Sunday breakfast, Main Building)

\$15 (includes 2 nights and Sunday breakfast, Dorm)

ONE-DAY SKI—GROUP RATE

Lift ticket—\$24

Equipment rental—\$14

Group Lesson—\$7

ONE-NIGHT SKI—GROUP RATE

Lift ticket—\$12

Equipment rental—\$8

Group lesson—\$7

ONE-TWILIGHT SKI (must purchase individual ticket at ski resort)

Lift ticket—\$28

Equipment—\$14

Because most of our groups arrive on Friday night with plans to ski on Saturday, the above information concerning rates applies to **Saturday**. **Friday, Sunday and holiday rates** are the same as Saturday. Weekday rates are available upon request.

TIPS FOR SKIING

Please read through these tips as they will help you prepare for your ski trip. These tips may be of much value, especially for those who have never skied before.

When venturing out on a ski trip, you should dress in layers.

FIRST LAYER: 1. A good set of "long johns"—top and bottoms. A set

that is made of thermax or polypropylene is best. These materials allow wicking of body moisture. Cotton will not wick and is not recommended.

2. Wool Socks—You should have a pair that extends to the knees. Wool or polypropylene

will allow wicking. Cotton is a no, no, because it holds moisture and the feet will become cold.

SECOND LAYER: 1. Shirt—Long sleeve turtle-neck is best. Sweat shirts are good.
2. Pants—A good pair of ski

pants or ski
bibbs.

THIRD LAYER: An acrylic or wool
sweater. Cotton
sweater is not
recommended.

FOURTH LAYER: Coat or parka—
should be well
insulated and
waterproof. It
also helps to
have a hood.

HEAD COVER: Always wear a
head covering.
Most of your
body heat es-
capes through
the head by
way of radia-
tion.

GLOVES: Gloves should be
durable and
waterproof.

EYE
PROTECTION: Sunglasses that
have a spf of 80
or above. They
should have a
infra-red/ultra
violet protec-
tion lens. No
wire frames
please. Wire
frames are
hazardous.

This sounds like a lot of
clothing; however, the purpose of
dressing in layers is that you have
enough to keep warm and if you
become hot you take off a layer.

If you are a first-time skier, we
strongly urge you to take a lesson.
There are many things that a
beginner skier needs to know and
only a lesson will give you this in-
formation. Have fun!

GO THE EXTRA MILE

In order to make this year's annual
payment on December 31, 1990, we
need your help now. The amount
needed is \$50,000. So far we have
been able to save \$26,000 toward
this payment.

In order for Cragmont to be debt-
free in 1995, approximately
\$400,000 needs to be raised. Crag-
mont is looking for 400 supporters
who will pledge \$1,000 each for
this goal. Will you help?

For more information, contact
Cragmont by phoning (704)
669-7677.



*May God bless you during
this holy season.*

*The Staff, Management
and Children*

*Free Will Baptist
Children's Home*



"It is the fatherly feelings in a child and the childlike
feelings in a father that reach out to each other eternal
hands of love"(George MacDonald).

IF
EVERY
DAY
WERE
CHRISTMAS

If the spirit of Christmas were with us every day, some revolutionary events
would occur:

Selfishness would die a death of starvation.

Avarice would be hung higher than Haman.

Foolish pride would go down in crushing defeat.

Senseless strife and silly bickerings would shame each other to death.

The prayer of Jesus for the unity of His followers would be answered.

Racial animosities would be drowned in a sea of brotherhood.

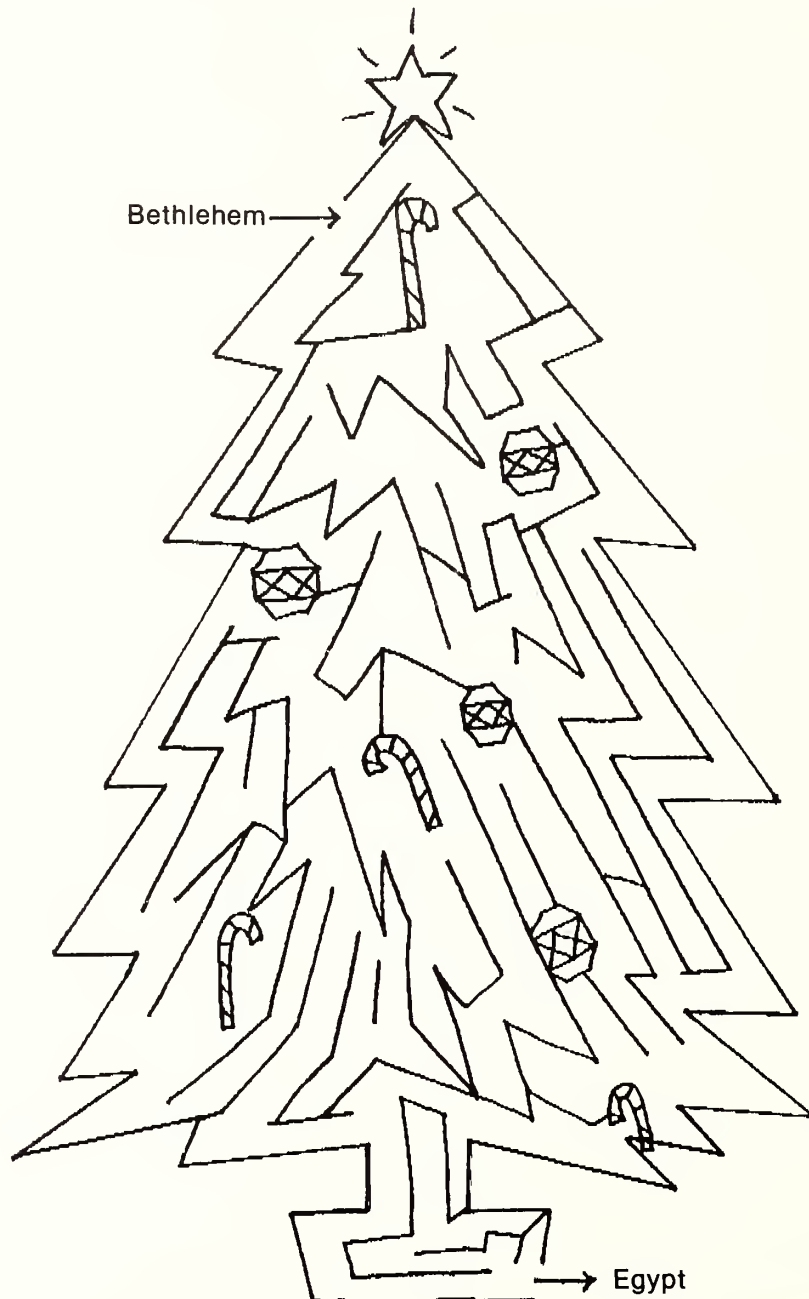
"Peace on earth" would become a glorious reality.

Edgar De Witt Jones

A MESSAGE FROM GOD

When King Herod heard that a baby had been born in Bethlehem who might one day take his place as king, he determined that he would find this baby and kill Him. He told the Wise Men to come back after they had found the Baby Jesus and tell him where he could find this baby so he could go and worship Him also. After the Wise Men had found the Baby Jesus, God told them in a dream not to return to Jerusalem but to go back to their home another way. God also told Joseph in a dream to take the young Jesus and Mary quickly into the country of Egypt to escape Herod's men.

Help Mary, Joseph, and the little Jesus find their way through the maze to Egypt.



by the Rev. C. H. Overman,
Convention of Original
Free Will Baptist General Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

On October 31, 1990, it was my privilege to attend the Middle Eastern District Original Free Will Baptist Annual Conference of America, which is held at the L. N. Forbes Tabernacle, Wilson, NC, each year. It was my second year of attendance. Also present with me were Mr. Cliff Gray, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press, and the Rev. Phillip Wood, a member of our Convention's Executive Committee and the pastor of Free Union Church, near Snow Hill.

Certificate of Appreciation

presented to

Bishop L. N. Forbes

in acknowledgment of your dedication to the advancement of God's Great Kingdom, the strengthening of the moral and spiritual fiber of our nation in the proclamation and promotion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and for the Christian love and friendship which you have shared with us, we express our sincere appreciation to you.

Presented on this the 31st day of October, 1990

By: Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

For several years, we have carried on a fraternal relationship with this conference. Many of our people remember that Bishop Forbes spoke at our Convention several years ago. It seems that we now anticipate the Bishop's presence and words of greetings, which he brings with such love and sincerity. Because of this relationship, our Executive Committee decided that it would be appropriate to recognize and honor Bishop Forbes in some special way. Thus, it was my privilege and honor to present him with a Certificate of Appreciation just before the lunch hour on Wednesday, October 31. The certificate

was very beautifully framed. The wording of the certificate is shown below. We appreciate the help of Mrs. Janie Sowers, editor of Literature at the Press, for her help in preparing the certificate.

On Thursday, November 1, the Rev. David C. Hansley, director of Home Missions and Evangelism, delivered the message at the Conference, which we feel was well received and was an honor to be invited to do so.

One thing is certain, attending the services with Bishop Forbes is a very wonderful experience and he treats his guests with great dignity and love. When you leave you feel that you have truly been an honored guest with the people of God.

FALL CONFERENCES ARE OVER

The last of our fall conferences and Auxiliary conventions was held on November 8 (the Central Conference). Our ministry directors have successfully represented the work of the ministries at all of our conferences, etc. Reports have been printed in the report books and verbal reports have been given. Our Free Will Baptist people have accepted the challenges of prayer and support of our work. Let's truly endeavor to support all our ministries and work with balanced and consistent giving, so that this current year will result in even greater accomplishments.

It has been noted that the great majority of our people who attend the Convention also attend our conferences. Thus, the same people hear the same reports, etc. In view of this, most of our ministry directors are thinking in terms of some type of support, or presentation, that would encompass all our ministries without the repetition, such as was done this past spring at our district Auxiliary conventions. A joint meeting was held on November 19, 1990, here at the

Headquarters, to discuss this matter. The ministry directors and their board chairmen, as well as representatives of the Convention's other boards and commissions, along with members of the Executive Committee were involved in the meeting.

In reference to our conference meetings, attendance and representation have been nominal. When compared to several years ago, the number is much smaller. Some churches find it difficult to secure delegates. Ministers, on the other hand, are well represented mainly because attendance is required. With the exception of one of our conferences (the Eastern), the meetings last only one day and most of the time they end by 2-2:30 p.m. There was a time when the two day's sessions would last until 3-4 in the afternoon. It just might be that in our haste to "get out" we fail to properly handle the Lord's work, or we leave it in the hands of those in authority because we are in too much of a hurry.

Each annual conference is our "highest ecclesiastical tribunal." It "derives its power from its member churches." (So it states in our *Articles of Faith*.) Each church in each conference is required to represent by letter and by delegation. If this connection is required to represent by letter and by delegation. If this connection is weakened by our lack of concern or our unwillingness to "take the time" to become involved, then what will we be left with? It just may also be that our passive attitudes or our narrow opinions have resulted in a fear of facing an issue. Open discussion and healthy debate are an indication of some degree of involvement and activity—that something is going on. When we are willing to "clear the air," then we all benefit.

(Continued on Page 46)

PRIME-TIME PARISHIONERS

by Craig Simmons

The media has played a cruel trick on us. They have led us to believe that the only thing that is important is the "spectacular," "thrill-filled," "goosebump-raising," "prime-time" events! Before it can be important to us, it has to be spectacular, prime-time stuff! I'm afraid this philosophy is infiltrating our churches and is causing many church members to change their priorities as faithful Christians and stewards. For example, I overheard a conversation that went something like this: One person asked, "What's happening at church tonight?" The other person responded, "Oh, nothing special; *it's just a regular service.*"

Prime-time parishioners come in different degrees. First, there are those who only come to church on special "holiday Sundays." These are those who attend church "faithfully" at Easter, Christmas and Homecoming. Then there are many who attend faithfully on Sunday morning but omit the Sunday Evening Worship and the poor ol' Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer Service . . . unless of course there is something special happening, like a "singing or an 'eatin' " . . . prime-time stuff indeed!

The truth is that every service of the church, whether it's Sunday Morning Worship, Sunday Evening Worship, Children's Church, Bible Study, Sunday School, Family Night, are prime-time events for the church member! Our faithfulness for all of these services of our church is called for in our Church Covenant, and should be a priority of every church member! After all, the most important event in the history of this world happened with no T.V. cameras, no commercials, no kings or queens, not at the Sheraton, not at a banquet . . . but rather on one "seemingly uneventful" evening that many thought would be "just another night." And on that night, that silent night, in that humble setting of a stable, Jesus Christ was born . . . our Saviour, our Lord, our King was born!

Who knows what might happen on those Wednesday nights and during those other services we are so accustomed to neglecting, that just seem to be "regular" services, when all of God's people gather together expectantly waiting for Him! Let us be faithful in those big events and in those events of the church that do not seem so big . . . but are!

NOTES AND QUOTES

(Continued from Page 45)

Let us hope that in next year's conferences our churches will send their proper number of delegates and thus there will be more interest and involvement created.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS

It simply does not seem possible that another Christmas season is upon us! As always, Christmas will be a special time of the year—a time of sharing and remembering that the truth of God's love as expressed in John 3:16 is just as true and real now as

when the birth of our Saviour was recorded in the Gospels. It is our prayer that this Christmas will truly recapture the reason for it all and that in the midst of this world of turmoil we will take time to focus on the real meaning for our celebrations.

(Turn the Page)

Give the Gift That Keeps on Giving . . .

As Christmas approaches and your thoughts turn to giving, you'll want to select gifts that are meaningful. We all know that selecting the right gift is important, and there is one gift that combines usefulness, Christian education, denominational news, inspiration, and more—a gift subscription to *The Free Will Baptist*.

And giving *The Free Will Baptist* will help keep Christmas gift-giving within your budget. As a matter of fact, for the small price of \$8.93, your friend can receive 12 issues—that's one issue a month for 12 months! A two-year subscription (\$16.28) will provide 24 months of good reading, while a four-year subscription (\$31.50) will continue for 48 months.

We will send your friend a special acknowledgment card before Christmas telling them about the gift you are sending them. Then you can relax knowing that you are giving people spiritual encouragement, information, and ideas that will help them meet the challenges of 1991.

So now that we've made your shopping easy, select your gift recipients, fill in the blanks below, and mail the form to the Free Will Baptist Press.

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KEEPING



There is a better thing than the observance of Christmas day and that is keeping Christmas.

Are you willing

- to forget what you have done for other people, and
- to remember what other people have done for you;
- to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world;
- to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground;
- to see that your fellow men are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy;
- to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give;
- to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—
- are you willing to do these things even for a day?

Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children;

- to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old;
- to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough;
- to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts;
- to try to understand what those who live in the same home with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you;
- to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you;
- to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your good thoughts, with the gate open—
- are you willing to do these things even for a day?

Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world—stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death—and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love?

Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you keep it for a day, why not always?

But you can never keep it alone.

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Henry Van Dyke

May yours be a blessed holiday—Staff and Management of the Free Will Baptist Press

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